

THE ATHENÆUM

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SATURDAY, APRIL 30, 1904.

PRICE
THREEPENCE
REGISTERED AS A NEWSPAPER

ROYAL INSTITUTION OF GREAT BRITAIN.

ALBEMARLE STREET, PICCADILLY, W.
TUESDAY NEXT, May 3, at 5 o'clock, L. FLETCHER, Esq., M.A., F.R.S., FIRST OF THREE LECTURES ON "METEORITES." Half-a-Guinea the Course.
THURSDAY, May 5, at 5 o'clock, ARTHUR HASALL, Esq., M.A., FIRST OF THREE LECTURES ON "ENGLAND AND EUROPE" (1703-1750). Half-a-Guinea.
SATURDAY, May 7, at 3 o'clock, DONALD FRANCIS TOVEY, Esq., B.A., FIRST OF THREE LECTURES ON "SONATA STYLE AND THE SONATA FORMS." With Musical Illustrations. Half-a-Guinea.
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BRITISH ARCHEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.

—The ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING will be held at 22, SACKVILLE STREET, PICCADILLY, on MAY 4, at 4.30 P.M. There will be no Evening Meeting.
GEO. PATRICK, A.R.B.A. (Hon. Sec.).
REV. H. J. D. ABTLEY, M.A. (Sec.).

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Season 1904-5.—SIX LECTURES, "From Tiddis to Ephesus, and Crimea, Rhodes, Patmos," "Amidst Biblical Scenes in Syria," "Strange Scenes Witnessed and Famous People Met," "Schemata of To-Day: her People and their Country," "Egypt of To-Day," "Russia's Tars: their Homes, History, and their Coronation Pageants." All illustrated fully by Photographs by the Lecturer, JAMES BAKER, F.R.G.S. F.R.Hist. Soc. (see "Who's Who"), who also Lectures on Technical and Commercial Education in Europe. Times—"Vivid life of people." Aberdeen Journal—"Graphic and charming." Liverpool Mercury—"Most interesting, vivid, and popular manner."
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For further particulars apply to the REGISTRAR, at the University.

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Applications, with not more than three Testimonials, should be sent to the Clerk not later than MAY 31, 1904.

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JOHN EDWARD LLOYD, M.A., Secretary and Registrar,
Bangor, April 25, 1904.

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H. WALTON, Secretary.

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CHAIR OF GEOLOGY.

The UNIVERSITY COURT of the UNIVERSITY of GLASGOW will shortly proceed to the appointment of a PROFESSOR to occupy this newly instituted Chair.

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WELSH INTERMEDIATE EDUCATION ACT, 1889.

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Preference will be given to Candidates who have had experience in Secondary Teaching. Women will be equally eligible with Men.

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J. OWEN OWEN, Chief Inspector,
Central Welsh Board Office, Cardiff, April 27, 1904.

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MESSRS. SOTHEBY, WILKINSON & HODGE will SELL by AUCTION (by order of the Executors), at their House, No. 13, Wellington Street, Strand, W.C., on MONDAY, May 2, at 1 o'clock precisely, a valuable LIBRARY of MANUSCRIPTS and PRINTED BOOKS, chiefly connected with the Fine Arts, the late ALFRED HIGGINS, Esq., C.B. F.S.A., of King Street, Portman Square, comprising Manuscript Bibles, Breviaries, Hours, Offices—the Koran—fine Codexes of Cicero, Claudian, Peter Lombard, the Roman—statutes—Suetonius, Vegetius, Virgil, &c.—Valerius de re Militari, Editha Florence—Books of Prints and Works on Art—Japanese Prints by Collected Artists—Kalmuck Press Publications—rare Old Books with Woodcuts, &c.

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CONTENTS.

	Page
NEW LETTERS OF CARLYLE	553
ROOSEVELT THE MAN AND THE CITIZEN	554
TALINE'S LIFE AND LETTERS	554
ASSER'S LIFE OF KING ALFRED	556
NEW NOVELS (The Sanyasi; Conjuror's House; The Disappearance of Dick; The Town's Verdict; Miss Arnott's Marriage; The King's Beadle)	557
BOOKS ON IRELAND	557
OUR LIBRARY TABLE (Problems of Empire; The States- man's Year-Book; The Book of Italian Travel; The Autobiography of a Thief; Oldenberg's Buddha; Pa Gladden; Vers Isaphan; My Memories and Miscellanies; Letters of Horace Walpole; "The Illustrated Pocket Library"; Gibbon and Adam Smith; "The Boys' Classics"; List of English and Foreign Newspapers)	559-561
LIST OF NEW BOOKS	561
BISHOP HOBBHOUSE; THE SHAKESPEARE EXHIBITION IN THE BRITISH MUSEUM; HOGG'S 'SHELLEY AT OXFORD'; M. OCTAVE GRÉARD; SALES	562-563
LITERARY GOSSIP	563
SCIENCE—A STUDY OF BRITISH GENIUS; A SYNTHESIS OF COSMIC AND AESTHETIC RHYTHMS; SOCIETIES; MEETINGS NEXT WEEK; GOSSIP	564-567
FINE ARTS—FRENCH PRIMITIVES IN THE PAVILLON DE MARSAN; SALES; GOSSIP	568-569
MUSIC—JOACHIM QUARTET CONCERTS; LONDON CHORAL SOCIETY'S CONCERT; GOSSIP; PERFORMANCES NEXT WEEK	569-570
DRAMA—'THE RICH MRS. REPTON'; 'CANDIDA'; SHAKESPEARE AND GRAY'S INN, 1504; GOSSIP	570-573

LITERATURE

New Letters of Thomas Carlyle. Edited and annotated by Alexander Carlyle. With Illustrations. 2 vols. (Lane.)

ALTHOUGH the collection would have been improved by curtailment, Mr. Alexander Carlyle has good excuse for adding these two volumes to the heap of books already concerned with his uncle's affairs. They complete the "epistolary biography" begun by Prof. Norton's edition of the 'Early Letters' in 1886, and designed, with Carlyle's 'Reminiscences' and the introduction and notes to the 'Letters and Memorials of Jane Welsh Carlyle,' to serve as a

"picture of his life, self-drawn and therefore indisputably true and faithful in outline, and complete enough for all legitimate purposes."

Carlyle's self-portraiture was not always correct, and both his reputation and his wife's have been tarnished by the "illegitimate" use made of their correspondence. But there is little to object to in the 395 letters now added to the series, apart from their needless profusion; and to the new generation which has grown up since the revelations and squabbles concerning Carlylean temperament and conduct were started, and which may not be acquainted with them, the whole collection should be interesting and not unprofitable reading.

If it throws scarcely any fresh light on Carlyle's character and on his relations with friends and kinsfolk, it furnishes abundant illustrations, in themselves sufficient and conclusive, of the real amiability—the infinite capacity for loving and being loved, as he might himself have phrased it—that underlay, when it did not shine through, the nervousness and roughness which were incurable in him, and which were aggravated by his ill-health and unhealthy mode of living. "It is not Books that I want now," he wrote in March, 1836, when he was struggling through his 'French Revolution,'

"but good sense and good spirits to make use of what I have. Something like three hundred volumes; and I all billowness and fret, and palpitating haste and bewilderment!"

He was always "wrestling" with any work he had on hand, and angry with the Fates for having set him to do it, and with himself for the way in which it was being done. While the 'French Revolution' was being written,

"it seems the miserablest mooncalf of a Book; full of *Ziererei*, affectation (do what I will); tumbling head foremost through all manner of established rules,"

and so on. This sort of complaining, especially in the letters to his brother John, which are more numerous than those to any other correspondent in these volumes, is so plentiful that it becomes tedious. At the same time, it has its proper place in the record of Carlyle's progress as a literary craftsman, which the correspondence with the most intellectual of his brothers very clearly sets forth. To "the Doctor" Carlyle turned safely for the counsel that only his wife was as competent to give, and for sympathy that appears to have been almost as tender as his devoted wife's, or that of the good mother who worshipped him. Perhaps it was the stimulus of their praise as well as of their sympathy, more than their counsel, that Carlyle cared for. But, if so, he was only in this respect like most other men, and it was no fault of his that the letters in which he poured out his confidences and grievances in exaggerated terms were stored up, and have since been published in such redundancy.

The letters printed in full or in part in these volumes stretch over more than forty years, but those of the first decade, between 1836 and 1846, are the most plentiful, and, with a few exceptions, by far the most interesting. Those written after Mrs. Carlyle's death, in 1866, are chiefly valuable as evidence in disproof of what the editor calls

"the mythical story that he [Carlyle] spent his last years in penitential sorrow and remorse (for the supposed ill-treatment of his Wife)."

The letters, though never light-hearted, are cheerful, and show that the writer was keenly alive to the concerns of his friends and surroundings. Their tone is wholly different from that of the 'Journal' which Mr. Froude published, and which, we are told, was only turned to when Carlyle was in a morbid condition:—

"When he was fairly well and in good spirits, day after day would go pleasantly past, and the Journal be allowed to lie unopened; but after a restless night, a spell of insomnia, dyspepsia, or hypochondria, the unfortunate Diary was certain to be produced and an entry made in it symptomatic of his feelings at the moment."

Among the most charming of the letters here given are those sent by Carlyle to his mother—notably one written on the occasion of his birthday in 1844:—

"This time Nine-and-forty years, I was a small infant few hours old, lying unconscious in your kind bosom; you piously rejoicing over me,—appointed to love me while life lasted to us both. What a time to look back, thro' so many days, marked all with faithful labour by you, with joy and sorrow!.....Your poor 'long sprawl of an ill-put-together thing,' as you once defined me, has grown up to be a distinct somewhat in this world; and his good Mother's toil

and travail with him was not entirely in vain..... My ever-loved Mother, I salute you with my affection once more, and thank you for bringing me into this world, and for all your unwearied care over me there."

Other particularly welcome letters in this collection are some that passed between Carlyle and Sterling, Browning, Edward FitzGerald, Leigh Hunt, and other fellow-writers of his day. They show Carlyle in kindlier mood than do the snappish remarks about his contemporaries which he was in the habit of throwing off, and of which there are rather too many samples in the work before us. One is almost reminded of Voltaire's great man who was so great that nothing could please him. Carlyle's ill-natured comments are all the more to be regretted because undue importance is attached to them by many who accept them as authentic expressions of his estimate of the men he made fun of or mocked at, if not as correct accounts of the men themselves. Here is an epistle to Leigh Hunt, written in June, 1850, which shows the grumbler in a very different vein:—

DEAR HUNT—I have just finished your 'Autobiography,' which has been most pleasantly occupying all my leisure these three days; and you must permit me to write you a word upon it, out of the fulness of my heart, while the impulse is still fresh to thank you. This good Book, in every sense one of the best I have read this long while, has awakened many old thoughts, which never were extinct, or even properly asleep, but which (like so much else) have had to fall silent amid the tempests of an evil time,—Heaven mend it! A word from me, once more, I know, will not be unwelcome, while the world is talking of you. Well, I call this an excellent good Book; by far the best of the autobiographic kind I remember to have read in the English language; and indeed, except it be Boswell's of Johnson, I do not know where we have such a Picture drawn of a human Life as in these three volumes. A pious, ingenious, altogether human and worthy Book; imaging, with graceful honesty and free felicity, many interesting objects and persons on your life-path,—and imaging through-out, what is best of all, a gifted, gentle, patient and valiant human soul, as it buffets its way thro' the billows of time, and will not drown, tho' often in danger; cannot be drowned, but conquers, and leaves a track of radiance behind it: that, I think, comes out more clearly to me than in any other of your Books;—and that I can venture to assure you is the best of all results to realize in a Book or written record. In fact this Book has been like an exercise of devotion to me: I have not assisted at any sermon, liturgy or litany, this long while, that has had so religious an effect on me. Thanks in the name of all men. And believe along with me that this Book will be welcome to other generations as well as ours. And long may you live to write more Books for us; and may the evening sun be softer on you (and on me) than the morn sometimes was! Adieu dear Hunt (you must let me use this familiarity, for I am an old fellow too now as well as you). I have often thought of coming up to see you once more; and perhaps I shall one of these days (tho' horribly sick and lonely, and beset with spectral lions, go whitherward I may): but whether I do or not, believe forever in my regard. And so God bless you,—prays heartily
T. CARLYLE.

The ten illustrations include five interesting portraits of Carlyle (two being from Mr. Watts's and Whistler's paintings), together with one of his mother and one of Mrs. Carlyle. All but the frontispieces,

however, appear to have been indiscriminately jerked into the volumes, as they have no relation with the pages to which they are opposite.

Theodore Roosevelt: the Man and the Citizen.
By Jacob A. Riis. (Hodder & Stoughton.)

MR. JACOB RIIS is, we believe, a Danish journalist in New York who has been a good deal associated with the difficult enforcement of the excellent State legislation within that city. He is, as we should say, concerned with social questions. He is also an uncertain writer, as we know by the perusal of two previous books of his which we have reviewed. He is at his best in the present volume, and we imagine that he must have improved remarkably in the course of his experience. The book now before us is full of what we should call most modern Americanisms; but the general effect is vivid and even brilliant.

It is clearly brought out, as it should be, that it was owing to the industry and energy of Roosevelt, when at the Admiralty of the United States, that the preparations for the war with Spain were as successful as it was afterwards discovered that they had been. We can hardly go with our author in his, not unnatural, praise of his hero for the introduction into the United States of something like what we know here as "Sir John Fisher's scheme." He begs the whole question when he writes:—

"Cadets now receive the same training; the American naval officer in the next war will be equally capable of commanding on deck and of mending a broken engine."

The whole dispute lies, of course, within the compass of this last sentence. The French, who are scientific enough in matters of education and of theoretical engineering, carefully considered and absolutely rejected a similar scheme, and deny that it is possible for such a system to produce the results expected from it in this country. The American scheme is not exactly the same, but such as it is, there are not wanting high authorities who declare to us that it has totally failed.

President Roosevelt is best known in France, and generally on the Continent—where, oddly enough, he is the only living American with a reputation—as a writer, and his philosophy and his history are greatly admired in French literary and academic circles, to the astonishment of those Englishmen who are admitted to them. In England, where his books and magazine articles are not especially esteemed, he has a high reputation as an organizer and a strong and just man. We doubt whether the episode of the Roughriders in the Cuban war makes greatly in this country for his popularity. There was, perhaps, a certain atmosphere of advertisement about that force, which arouses the wrath of the scoffer in society. We feel sure that Col. Roosevelt was not in the least responsible for that newspaper atmosphere which—against his will, as we believe—surrounded him. It was, as Mr. Riis says, the case that mounted rifles were an historic arm of the United States from the earliest days, and that they distinguished themselves both in the revolutionary war and in the war of 1812, while, as the Texan Rangers, in the

war with Mexico, they became the heroes of the earliest volumes of Mayne Reid. Col. Roosevelt was in earnest in raising his regiment, and did good service with them. They fought, however, upon foot, for which their organization was not calculated, and the history of their successes may no doubt be somewhat discounted as imaginative journalism. The black cavalry, under the distinguished ex-rebel General Wheeler, probably did as well.

Of course it may be urged against this book, as against the President himself, that all that falls from him is of the Martin Farquhar Tupper type. Indeed, occasionally he seems fully to realize this himself, and to express it as well as it could be put:

"I know the very ordinary kind of man I am to fill this great office. I know that my ideals are commonplace. I can only insist upon them as fundamental, for they are that. Not in the least doing anything great, I can try, and I am trying, to do my duty on the level where I am put, and, so far as I can see the way, the whole of it."

No doubt, also, the style of President Roosevelt is of an exasperatingly "copybook" character, as he invariably prefers platitude to paradox, and seems to write over the top of every page "I am a good boy": "The American people are good boys." But then there is no denying the fact that he is a good boy, and that the American people are good boys—as nations go; and it must be noted to his credit that there is not the least suspicion of hypocrisy, or even cant, about him. Indeed certain verbal observations of President Roosevelt's have been couched in a form which has been made use of against him by the goody-goody; and for weeks after his four-in-hand was upset, with serious injury to his leg, the American papers were filled by gigantic headings which in one way or another professed to preface a relation of "What President Roosevelt said to the trolleyman"—that is, to the driver who ran into him. Just, however, as the memorable observation of an Australian statesman to an American reporter who expressed belief, couched in interrogative form, that he had landed in the United States to visit the Chicago Exhibition, which was telegraphed by the indignant reporter to Australia as a bombshell, improved the position of the statesman in his own country, where he has ever since been affectionately known as Sir "D.C." Dibbs—the initials standing for that of Chicago prefaced by a big, big D—so the horror of the expressions said to have been used by President Roosevelt to the trolleyman is pleasantly scored to his favour by great numbers of his fellow-citizens who had previously thought him a little too good for this world.

President Roosevelt suffers in the United States from the charge of "militarism." There can be no doubt that the United States, while she will continue to maintain an extended Monroe doctrine for the two Americas against the world, will also sooner or later take the somewhat inconsistent course of raising her voice in affairs of European or Asiatic concern; and it is, on the whole, right, and even necessary, as well as inevitable, that she should do so. President Roosevelt sees this, and he may have seen it in advance of the majority of the citizens of his country. He will only

leave the greater name in the history of the United States if he is beaten upon the issue in his own day. As regards militarism itself, he has pleasantly chaffed the authors of the charge, for when they declared that he was working for war, he replied to the effect that it was hardly likely that he should allow war while he was "cooped up in the White House" and unable to take any part in it.

We do not quite understand the statement that it was an uncle of President Roosevelt who built the Alabama. In a family trial of one of the Roosevelt children for having left a dead rabbit for a whole day after its demise in the White House garden, the eldest brother, who seems to have presided over the court-martial and to have delivered a judgment worthy of Solomon, is styled "Judge-Advocate General." We are not aware if that functionary exists in the United States and presides over courts of any kind. The Judge-Advocate General of this country advises on courts-martial, but does not take part in them.

H. Taine, sa Vie et sa Correspondance: la Critique et le Philosophie, 1853-1870.
Tome II. (Hachette & Cie.)

THE first twenty years of Taine's life and correspondence formed the subject of the first volume of the work compiled by his widow, which was reviewed in No. 3902 of the *Athenæum*. In the second the results of his career during the succeeding seventeen are set forth in a most readable fashion. Sometimes Madame Taine is over-reticent, and effaces herself too much. The introduction to the series of letters between 1867 and 1869 contains the simple statement that during the winter of 1868 Taine met at M. Henri Lehmann's house the daughter of an artist who was M. Lehmann's intimate friend, and that on the 8th of the following June he married her. A note states that the artist's name was M. Alexandre Denuelle. To many readers this name may be unknown. But Madame Taine had as good reason to be proud of her father as of her husband. Her father shrank from publicity, yet in the world of letters and art his name was familiar and honoured. By profession he was an architect who confined himself to designing the internal ornamentation of buildings, and he was an acknowledged master of his art. His work was lucrative, and his daughter was an heiress. She brought to her husband the still more enviable dowry of a fine and highly cultured intellect and the capacity to admire and aid him in his work.

Before contracting this happy marriage Taine had many struggles. He worked very hard. Few among his most distinguished contemporaries were sounder and more profound scholars. All the prizes which could be won for proficiency in classical learning were obtained by him. Yet his thirst for knowledge was insatiable. In 1853, after taking his degree as Doctor of Letters, he became a student again, and followed courses of lectures in physiology and natural history with as keen curiosity as he could have done had he designed to qualify himself for a career of scientific research or practice as a doctor. He entered the

School of Medicine and acquired the art of dissection. He had written an essay on La Fontaine, which, when recast and revised, was classed among the most original of modern French books. Now he prepared an essay on Livy in the hope that it would be crowned by the Academy. In this case, as in others, his originality was his bane; the members of the Academy who sat in judgment could neither deny the writer's cleverness nor tolerate his apparent contempt for their cherished traditions. However, his superiority over all the other competitors being incontestable, the award was postponed till the following year. Taine modified some passages which had offended his judges, and they crowned his essay when presented to them again. In 1857 he gave to the world a volume of papers, which had appeared in the *Revue de l'Instruction Publique*, on 'The French Philosophers of the Nineteenth Century.' The leading members of the Academy, and M. Cousin in particular, were here treated with a severity to which they were unaccustomed, and in a style which made the book excellent reading to every one but themselves. Cousin had not approved of Livy being treated by Taine as an "oratorical historian," and he was horrified to find the same irreverent and most pungent writer disparage him by showing that he was but an "oratorical philosopher." However, the book gave Taine a place of note and power in the literature of his country.

Yet Taine, who lived for his work alone, as the great men of olden days did, had not the physical strength either of a Scaliger or a Bentley, or of a Mommsen who, after taxing his bodily and mental powers to the utmost, attained a great age. From youth up he was abstemious and industrious. The bohemian life in which many of his contemporaries revelled, and which Mürger made most attractive on paper, had not the slightest charm for him. His pleasure in life itself was but small. Writing, June, 1854, to his friend Suckau, who had complained of the wetness of the season, he said: "Rain resembles life, inasmuch as one despises, curses, and submits to it." Shortly before he had written to his mother:—

"Nobody is happy; yet, so long as we have no losses which touch our hearts, or monetary difficulties, we ought to make the best of life."

However, it required all Taine's stoicism to bear the loss of health which for several years incapacitated him for the study which was his delight, and even for earning by his pen the money which was necessary for his comfort. Having suffered from a malady of the throat, which almost deprived him of the power of speech, and from general debility, which hindered him from executing the work he had planned, he went in the spring of 1854 to Saint-Sauveur in the Pyrenees, on the advice of Dr. Guéneau de Mussy, who was a personal friend as well as a skilled physician. The springs at which he sought relief did him no service, and he returned home a sufferer. In the years 1855 and 1856 he drank the mineral waters of Eaux-Bonnes, with the result of deriving marked benefit and of not seriously suffering in later years from the malady which then rendered his life a burden. In view of meeting the cost which his first trip entailed, he arranged with

Messrs. Hachette to prepare a guide-book to the Pyrenean watering-places. The manuscript which he delivered to them was so different from and superior to an ordinary guide-book that it was published in 1855 with the title of 'Voyage aux Eaux des Pyrénées.' Three years later a second edition, which was almost a new work, bore the title of 'Voyage aux Pyrénées,' while the third edition was illustrated by Doré. The work itself is one which all Taine's admirers class among his best. His widow has printed in this volume some 'Personal Notes' written by him in 1862, the first of which runs:—

"I have a French and Latin turn of mind, which consists in ranging ideas in regular and progressive order, after the manner of naturalists, and according to the rules of ideologists—in short, oratorically."

The work on the Pyrenees is a striking example of how much more capable a man Taine was than he fancied. It is filled with facts, and the facts are marshalled so as to lead to predetermined conclusions, but a vein of poetry runs through and gives value to the mass, as in the writings wherein Ruskin is at his best.

His success as a writer increased with each succeeding article or book, and then his health broke down in a more serious fashion. During the greater part of the time between 1857 and 1859, he read and wrote with extreme difficulty, and for days together he could not do either. On June 30th, 1859, he informed Suckau that he was rather better, being able to read for an hour daily; he pathetically added, "I am a steam engine that wants a boiler, and I am either rusting or rotting away." Madame Taine has refrained from adding—what ought to be made known to those who were unacquainted with her husband—that his fortitude in affliction was truly heroic. Few men whose intellectual powers were as great as his have ever surpassed him in genuine modesty. His ambition was to execute the task for which he considered himself to be qualified, yet he never murmured when his physical capacity for work fell short of his desire. This is the conclusion drawn from the outpourings made to his friends in his darkest hours.

Edmond About, his comrade in early education and his friend till death, did not equal him in scholarship and general aptitude. Taine says of him, in a letter to his mother in 1853:—

"I wish we had the light-heartedness, the vigour, the hopefulness, which prevail in About and his family. He always looks at the bright side of things, and is always ready for anything. We are much weaker instruments, giving out a note of sadness at times. He is a competitor at the Academy for another subject than mine: he gives me every encouragement, and he would inspire me with hope if I were devoid of it."

Writing to Madame Letorsay, in 1854, about his Pyrenean journey, Taine laments, without just cause, his inability to write a good descriptive style, adding:—

"My comrade About is more fortunate than I am. The output of his mind is marketable. He is a man of the world, and a conversationalist, and thus he can interest all readers. I am but fitted to address a few bookworms in France and Germany who concern themselves with ideagrinding."

Four years later, Taine tells Suckau that About is in Italy, that he has made much money by his drama entitled 'Germaine,' that he spends it freely and keeps open table twice a week. He adds, with perfect truth, that 'Maitre Pierre' is very fine, and that it is About's best work since his 'Roi des Montagnes.' While About's writings were deservedly popular and far more remunerative than Taine's, his brilliancy has not sufficed to give his work that immortality which Taine's have won.

References to Taine's famous contemporaries are frequent in this volume, and are always of value. From his letters we learn much about himself, not the least interesting information being the impression made by his visits to England, which supplements what is printed in his 'Notes sur l'Angleterre.' An uncle who had lived in America brought back to France several English books, which Taine learnt to read when a boy. In later years he pursued his studies in English literature, and he wrote many articles on the subject. He first visited England in June, 1860, to read the books which he could not find at home and see the country itself. He found in the library of the Athenæum Club and in the British Museum ample material, and during a second visit, two years later, he made a copy of a work by an old English writer which he had not found in any Paris library. After spending several weeks in England, he wrote to Suckau, saying that the notions he had derived from English books had been confirmed by observation on the spot, adding:—

"The principal point, and almost the single one, which I must correct, is the belief that the English are stuck-up and disobliging. None could be more obliging than they."

The last phrase is elaborated in a letter to M. Guillaume Guizot from Manchester, dated July 15th, 1860, with reference to an article in the *Journal des Débats*:—

"You write about English stiffness in your article. I gather that you think every Englishman moves in a sort of fence which cuts him off from his neighbours. Well, for my part, I have found Englishmen as affable and accessible as Frenchmen. I do not speak of those to whom you have given me introductions. Good breeding and the desire to be agreeable to you might make them amiable to me. But I have experienced the like disposition among all classes. Neither have I found them more melancholy than the French; they are undoubtedly quite as polite. On the whole, they appear to have stronger nerves than we have, and to be less emotional, to delight in coarser pleasures and physical enjoyments. But the *Merry England* of which sixteenth-century authors write still endures, and we are mistaken in supposing that business and Protestantism have submerged it."

The volume includes copious particulars about Sainte-Beuve, Renan, and Flaubert. Readers of the 'Memoirs' of the brothers Goncourt may remember what is written in them about the dinners at Magny's restaurant, at which the most notable men of the day assembled at intervals, with Sainte-Beuve in the chair. According to Madame Taine, her husband said that if those present at the dinners had talked the platitudes attributed to them, neither his friends nor himself would have been present thrice

It is the simple truth to add that Taine had singular good fortune in his choice of a wife. Madame Taine displays as judicious and touching devotion to his memory as she did to himself during his life.

Asser's Life of King Alfred. Edited, with Introduction and Commentary, by W. H. Stevenson. (Oxford, Clarendon Press.)

At the time when a somewhat fierce controversy was being waged in the columns of the *Athenæum* (1876-7) as to the authenticity of Asser's 'Life of Alfred,' the opinion was expressed that a new and critical edition of the 'Vita' was much to be desired. After the lapse of a quarter of a century that wish has been fulfilled. It is not to be expected that all students of Alfred and his times will be in entire accord with all Mr. Stevenson's conclusions or comments, but no scholar can fail to appreciate the fair-mindedness and the literary acumen shown in these 500 pages. In short, the whole book affords a fine example of modern English scholarship. Some apology is made in the preface for the length of the annotation, and for what some may regard as unnecessary details; but Mr. Stevenson is quite right when he says that

"I have preferred laying myself open to this charge rather than put forward definite assertions where the evidence at our command precludes hard-and-fast conclusions."

We are assured—and the care expended on the task, as well as the modesty of the expressions used, go far to support this statement—that the work was approached without any bias for or against the authenticity of the 'Life,' and with the simple desire to subject every portion of it to as searching an examination as the knowledge and critical powers of the writer would permit.

The position of affairs when Mr. Stevenson began his task may be thus very briefly stated. Asser's 'Life of Alfred' was first edited by Archbishop Parker in 1574. He used for the purpose a manuscript which afterwards formed part of the great Cotton Collection (Otho A. xii.), but which was almost destroyed in the fire of 1731. He interpolated, however, certain passages from a pseudo-Asser. Camden reproduced Parker's edition in 1603, inserting the celebrated forgery (the origin of which is unknown) as to the ancient foundation of Oxford University. In 1722 Wise again edited the 'Life' from the old manuscript, and gave an engraved copy of one of the pages. So far as palæographical experts are concerned, this particular page (if one may assume the engraving to be fairly correct) is pronounced to be *circa* A.D. 1000; that was the date assigned to it by the British Museum authorities at the time of the recent Alfred Exhibition. Wise refers to other manuscript copies of the 'Life,' all of sixteenth-century date. The most valuable of these is the one at Corpus Christi College, Cambridge, for it is the copy of the unique MS. ruined in 1731, which was used for the press by Archbishop Parker, with the insertions from the 'Annals of St. Neots.' A second transcript is at the British Museum (Cott. MSS., Otho A. xii.*), and was apparently written soon after the appearance of Parker's edition. A third, termed the Arundel transcript, also in a late sixteenth-century hand, is now

in the University Library, Cambridge, having been purchased at the Frere sale in 1896; it has a close affinity to the British Museum transcript. The last edition of the 'Vita' was that of Henry Petrie in the 'Monumenta' of British history, which appeared in 1848; the text of this edition was but a reprint of Wise's, but the transcripts and the 'Annals of St. Neots' were collated. Three translations were respectively published in the years 1848, 1854, and 1900.

The authenticity of the 'Life' was first seriously attacked by Thomas Wright in 1841. By a curious coincidence Wright was engaged, at this very period, in strenuously defending the authenticity of "the absurd forgery" 'De Situ Britannie,' which had been fathered upon Richard of Cirencester. His various contentions are subjected to a minute analysis and destructive process of criticism at the hands of Mr. Stevenson. In 1876-7 Mr. (now Sir) Henry Howorth contributed a long series of articles to the *Athenæum*, wherein he restated Wright's arguments "in a much more vehement manner," adding thereto certain new points of adverse criticism. Sir Henry Howorth was then, as now, possessed of a strenuousness of style which carried conviction to not a few of his readers. His assertions were made with such exceeding confidence that they have doubtless caused many a subsequent writer, who had not examined the question for himself, quietly to assume that Asser's life was, to say the least, of most doubtful authenticity. In the first article Sir Henry Howorth styled the life "one of the most fly-blown and suspicious works quoted by historians," and stated that there were "overwhelming objections to its authenticity." As the articles proceeded his assurance increased. Asser is denounced as "a worthless authority," who may be "safely erased from the list of authorities on early English history." Finally, the conclusion was definitely reached (September 8th, 1877) that "the life of Alfred which goes by the name of Asser was not written by Asser nor by any contemporary of the great king."

Mr. Stevenson has done well in following up in detail the arguments of these two disbelievers. Nor does he go too far in speaking of the "amazing carelessness" that has been shown by those who have attacked the genuineness of the 'Life.'

By far the most important point in the new matter brought forward by Sir Henry Howorth was the statement that Mr. (now Sir Edward) Thompson had

"examined the fragments of the MS. [the unique burnt MS.], which have been rebound, and he authorized me to say that it is written in two distinct hands, one of the eleventh and the other of the twelfth century, and that no portion of it is so early as the tenth."

This statement actually misled so careful a scholar as the late Henry Bradshaw, who made reference to these non-existing fragments of the 'Life' in his 'Collected Papers.' The fact is that not a scrap of the 'Life' is extant. Sir E. M. Thompson has now informed Mr. Stevenson that he was misled into making the statement on which the main argument as to the composite character of the life was built by assuming, apparently, that the whole

of the old Otho A. xii. related to the same matter. It is strange that Sir Henry Howorth never took the trouble, when he was writing his attacks at such great length, to examine for himself what he imagined to be extant fragments of the original manuscript. As so much turns upon this point, Mr. Stevenson might well have dwelt a little longer over the matter, and shown what is the true nature of the tiny fragments of the burnt volume, which are now carefully remounted, and in several places still legible. That the fragments are of two different dates and refer to two different subjects is evident even to a novice: the one is a part of Æthelweard's chronicle, and the other is a Vita Sanctorum, of which the passion of St. Ursula is one of the most legible portions. But, even if these fragments of two different dates had been the life of Alfred, Sir Henry's deductions would have been of little weight with Mr. Stevenson, for it is his contention, as well as that of other competent critics, that the old manuscript life burnt in 1731 was itself an ancient copy, and not the author's autograph.

The arguments from the internal evidence in the 'Life' are set forth with much precision. The author's knowledge of Wales is fully in accord with his character as a Welshman. The chapter wherein he accurately mentions the Welsh kings of his times bears strong evidence of the authenticity of the work; for it is difficult to imagine a twelfth-century English forger writing such an account without making some grievous blunders. Prof. Rhys has examined the Welsh terms for Mr. Stevenson, and conceives that words of such unmistakably pure Welsh could by no possibility have been forged in England in the twelfth century. The professor dates these forms from about the middle of the ninth to the tenth century. Further evidence of the Welsh origin of the author is to be found in the Welsh names given by him to English places.

The long introduction, consisting of ninety-two closely reasoned short sections or paragraphs, is followed by a critical collated version of the actual text of the 'Vita.' To this succeeds an excellent introduction to the 'Annals of St. Neots,' with an edition of the text, which has not, we believe, been fully set forth since Thomas Gale produced it, in 1691, from the Trinity College, Oxford, MS., in his 'Quindecim Scriptores.' It is to these annals that we are indebted for the undying story of Alfred and the cakes.

The notes, which take up about 200 pages, are of genuine value, and give continuous evidence of careful and wide reading. They throw great light on almost every subject bearing on the times of Alfred, as well as on the particular incidents mentioned in the text. The excursus as to the confusion of the ceremony of creation as consul with that of hallowing as king clears up most of the difficulties surrounding the account of the young Alfred's visit to Rome.

The broad result of Mr. Stevenson's undertaking, to which he has devoted a considerable portion of his time for several years, is that the genuineness of Asser's 'Life of Alfred' has been now placed on a sound basis, as the result of con-

tinuous and minute criticism. From that position no mere repetition of old arguments, however dressed up, will avail to shake it. If it is to be assailed anew, fresh points of attack will have to be discovered. The following is Mr. Stevenson's own summary of the issue of his labours:—

"The net result has been to convince me that, although there may be no very definite proof that the work was written by Bishop Asser in the lifetime of King Alfred, there is no anachronism or other proof that it is a spurious compilation of later date. The serious charges brought against its authenticity break down altogether under examination, while there remain several features that point with varying strength to the conclusion that it is, despite its difficulties and corruption, really a work of the time it purports to be. This result is confirmed by the important corroboration of some of its statements by contemporary Frankish chroniclers. Thus the profession of belief in its authenticity by such eminent historians as Kombe, Pauli, Stubbs, and Freeman agrees with my own conclusions."

NEW NOVELS.

The Sanyasi. By F. E. Penny. (Chatto & Windus.)

THIS is an excellent tale of India, in which life in Madras is fully dealt with, and some entertaining descriptions of Ceylon pearl fisheries are included. Mrs. Penny is not a careful writer, but she appears to have the root of the story-telling art in her. Want of care makes this book unequal, so far as the writing is concerned, but its interest is pretty well sustained throughout, and in parts it reaches a high level. If the author would ascertain in one minute what we mean by the inequality of her writing, she might refer to pp. 6 and 7, and read over the conversation between the heroine and the horse-dealer. It is a very poor, lifeless piece of work, full of the most irritating of catch phrases. Everything is said "with a bright smile," or "with slightly heightened colour," or with something else equally gratuitous and banal. These two characters are, however, reasonably conceived, and, given half a chance, would live for the reader at once, as they do later on in the book. Miggie, the butler, is admirable and lifelike. The whole story is both amusing and interesting. The author has realized that it is not the East pure and simple, but the East as viewed by Western eyes, that is interesting to Western readers.

Conjuror's House. By Stewart Edward White. (Methuen & Co.)

THIS story is remarkable chiefly for the allegation made in it against the Hudson's Bay Company. If the hero is to be believed, the Company's anxiety to keep a monopoly leads them or their agents to take a short way with free traders. If a rival trader can be caught, he is taken six hundred miles from civilization, his rifle is taken from him, and he is given a small parcel of provisions and sent off upon what is euphemistically called "La Longue Traverse," to be killed by Indians or to die of starvation. No one is to blame, it seems; no one is supposed to know that such things happen; but still it is asserted that every one about Hudson's Bay has heard of "La Longue

Traverse." The book is also remarkable for its freshness. The author has found something new in the way of scenery and detail for a novel, and he has used his materials very well.

The Disappearance of Dick. By W. B. Harris. (Blackwood & Sons.)

DICK was the son of an English colonel stationed in Gibraltar. He went out sailing in the Straits one afternoon with an old Spanish servant of the family, and as a storm arose that evening and neither the yawl nor any of its occupants returned, it was naturally assumed that boat and crew had been lost. As a fact, the yawl had been driven for shelter into a little land-locked cove on the Riff coast of Morocco. There the indiscretion of one of the hands in striking a match betrayed their presence to some Riffians ashore; the party were captured, their yawl scuttled, and themselves taken into slavery, as many hundreds of Christians before them have been enslaved on that forbidding coast. Dick lived for some time in a Riff village, where he was beloved by a little Moorish maiden of nine or ten years, and eventually he took part in the defence of the mountain villages against Shareefian troops sent to "eat up" that district, as the Moorish phrase runs, for non-payment of taxes. He then became a prisoner of war, and in the Shareefian camp had the good luck to save the Sultan from assassination. As a reward he got his liberty, and with the old Spanish servant and the little Riffian girl, who was allowed to accompany him, was escorted to the coast, and shipped off with many presents to Gibraltar, Christendom, and safety. There are few Englishmen living who can write of Morocco with greater knowledge than Mr. Walter Harris, and it may well be that his experiences of last year, when he himself suffered a brief captivity among the tribesmen of the hills near Tangier, have served him in the preparation of this simply told tale.

The Town's Verdict. By Ethel F. Heddle. (Blackie & Son.)

MISS HEDDLE has already introduced her readers to the Scotch academic town of St. Rule's, in which the scene of her latest story is laid. It seems hardly credible that the whole town and university, including the Principal, who should have known better, and the girl who loved him and who should have known best, could all have been so ready to believe that Coll McLean, a student of peculiarly blameless character, had been guilty of throwing a fellow-student, however undeserving, over the cliff. Yet so they did, only poor simple "Chronic" keeping faith in his friend, until the unexpected reappearance of "Black Meg" proved the folly of their verdict. In the same way Col. Seton believed the worst of his old friend Major Brewster, until after many years he was confronted with the truth. The scenes of Scotch provincial and academic life are well described, but in the character-drawing there is a certain absence of light and shade. Sybilla is too wholly a minx to be convincing, and Jean has too little belief in her lover to be entirely attractive as a heroine.

Miss Arnott's Marriage. By Richard Marsh. (Long.)

THIS story opens with a bang: "Robert Champion, you are sentenced to twelve months' hard labour." His young wife was in court; but her feelings were not those that are *de rigueur* in convicts' wives: "If he had been sentenced to be hung, her dominant sensation would have been one of relief." On returning to the poor lodging which she had taken (under her maiden name) she finds herself heiress to 100,000*l.* a year. This increases the horror of the situation, for the world claims her, and men want to marry Miss Arnott. By-and-by the particularly objectionable animal whom she had been tricked into marrying reappears, a day before his time, to claim her and hers for his own. They meet in a wood at midnight, and there is a murder, which, although various people seem in danger of hanging for it, most imminently the heroine, is yet the beginning of happy times for everybody.

The King's Beadle. By J. W. Payne. (Foulis.)

HOPE springs eternal in the reviewer's breast, and it is always with something of a thrill that he picks up a book if its author's name be unfamiliar. And this proves an incorrigible optimism that many disappointments cannot altogether quench. The present book must, with regret, be placed among the majority—the disappointments. It is an example of a commonplace error among the amateurs of the pen. This error lies in the belief that for the production of an historical tale all that is needed is a little research among old papers and books, and that when one has secured a sheaf of genuine notes upon old customs, fashions, and beliefs, combined with a working knowledge of dates and historical events, one is sufficiently equipped. There could not be a greater mistake. The corner-stone of the fabric is still to seek, as it is in 'The King's Beadle.' That corner-stone is imagination, directed by a knowledge not of history, but of human nature, which is much the same in all times. Mr. Payne's story is of Scotland in the middle of the seventeenth century, and his "local colour" is sound. He appears to have sought his material diligently, and gathered it into a neat and orderly pile. That pile is his book. It is still far from the stage of being a story; the breath of life is not in it. Its "henchmen" are invariably "trusty," its "tenants" are always "kindly," even three times to the page; but they are no more alive than an Egyptian mummy.

BOOKS ON IRELAND.

Studies in Irish History, 1649-1775. Edited by R. Barry O'Brien. (Dublin, Browne & Nolan.)

Ireland's Renaissance. By R. J. Smith. (Dublin, Hodges & Figgis.)

THE former of these books professes to be history, but contains mere politics. It professes to give an account in separate essays, by separate authors, of what happened in Ireland from the time of Cromwell to that of Grattan. The earlier part only is fully treated, the last essay, 'After Limerick,' being the

usual rehearsal of the horrors of the penal laws and the mercantile oppression of Ireland by English legislation. The book is the production of the Irish Literary Society of London, which evidently preaches Nationalistic politics under the guise of literature. It is obvious enough that had any one proposed an essay or lecture on the English side of the quarrel, it would not have been accepted. And yet how interesting would have been two strongly contrasted essays on the same period! That is actually what Mr. R. J. Smith proposes in his book of remedies—to print rival historians in parallel columns for the young, that they may learn both sides of a great dispute. The Irish Literary Society of London has no such broad views.

The volume opens with an address from no less a personage than Sir Wm. Butler, whose pen is as good as his sword. There is no better writer in the British army. The concluding chapters of his 'Life of Sir G. Colley' are a literary performance of the highest quality. We regret that the present essay is of a different order; it is on the level of the verdict of the Tipperary peasant who described the place in which Cromwell was now to be found as the place "where he could light his pipe with the end of his finger, if he liked." To Sir Wm. Butler he is merely a vulgar hypocrite, full of falsehood and cruelty, and working the whole Puritan party as a band of plunderers, who, under pretence of religion, thought of nothing but confiscating other people's property. Not even the military qualities of the Protector receive one word of commendation. If Sir Wm. Butler thinks that the great Puritan party in English history was led to victory by a mere selfish and lying hypocrite—if he thinks the Ironsides who won the victories were mere bandits fighting for plunder—he is not worth one word of criticism. His account of the cruel massacre of the Irish soldiers and prisoners at Drogheda is in fact correct, but not one word of the true explanation is added. In the first place, Cromwell lived in an age when the extremest severities in war were thought justifiable. Tilly's sack of Magdeburg and Alva's of Haarlem were just as horrible; but in those days both the life and the property of the vanquished were at the disposal of the victor. In the next place, time was vital to the Protector. A prolonged campaign in Ireland would have been the ruin of his cause in England. The war, therefore, must be finished at all costs, and not protracted, as some wars have been, by lenity towards the vanquished. It is moreover a matter of argument whether Cromwell's trenchant measures did not cost far fewer Irish lives than would have been lost in a prolonged campaign, especially when one considers the non-combatants, who must have been harried and starved by both armies. Lastly, Cromwell believed that he was avenging upon the Irish army a most cruel massacre (of 1641), in which hundreds—possibly thousands—of women and children were driven from their homes in winter to die of exposure and want before they could reach any place of refuge. Without stating these things the history of the massacre is not complete, and even misleading. Beside these grave faults the placing of Oxmantown on the south of the Liffey, and the curious account of a veteran (Sir A. Ashton) complaining of the active treason of his grandmother, are not worth mentioning. We will only add that the old fable of thousands of Irish girls being sent out into the worst kind of slavery in the West Indies is paraded again (from Prendergast) in spite of its refutation by S. R. Gardiner. The exportation was proposed and authorized, but never carried out.

Then follow two essays by Mr. Philip Wilson of a much more respectable character. They discuss the perplexities of Charles II., succeeding to the rule of confiscated Ireland, and

distracted between the just claims of the dispossessed natives and the practical necessity of not dispossessing the English adventurers. It was the old difficulty felt in Greek politics when an exiled party were restored, and found their houses and lands sold to new occupiers, who had a title from the State. Charles II. temporized, and adjourned a final decision, though he had passed his Act of Settlement, which is the title to most properties in Ireland to this day. When James II. succeeded, with Richard Talbot (Earl of Tyrconnel) to advise him, there was no more temporizing. The Act of Settlement was to be undone, directly or indirectly; the corporations, and also the magistracy and the bench, to be infused with Catholics. It was on a great scale what Mr. John Morley did for the Irish magistracy a few years ago. But all this was not enough without a retransfer of the landed property back to the alleged Catholic owners, and for this purpose was passed the scandalous Act of Attainder of some 2,400 bishops, noblemen, and gentlemen, with a possibility of pardon from the king only for three months, after which time they forfeited absolutely both life and property. All this is honestly told by Mr. Wilson. But he glazes over the most infamous feature in the transaction. The names of the victims in this monstrous proscription were kept secret, so as to preclude timely flight or pardon. They were only ascertained by Mr. Coghlan, M.P. for Trinity College, who found them under pretence of a legal search, and copied them out. The whole Act was long afterwards printed in King's 'State of the Irish Protestants'—a most astounding document. Mr. Wilson's defence is that the passing of the Act was known to the *London Gazette* in a few days. But it was not known officially, and in any case the names of those attainted were not made known. That is the whole point at issue. We pass on to Ireland's renaissance.

Mr. R. J. Smith does not suffer from any undue bashfulness. He gives us the panacea for all the wrongs and woes of Ireland, which he rightly traces, in our day at least, to the moral faults and defects of the Irish people. If the force of heredity were not there as an adequate excuse, the modern Nationalists would, indeed, be of all men the most signally unpatriotic. For they keep parading the past woes of Ireland in order to prevent her from obtaining the present benefits which lie within her reach—nay, rather, which are thrust upon her by repentant England. If, for example, any rent-paying peasantry in Europe were offered the terms of Mr. Wyndham's Land Bill, their astonishment at such an offer would not delay their acceptance of it for a moment.

At the outset of our reading we felt that Mr. Smith's lectures to the Irish people upon their shortcomings were rather too matter-of-fact and didactic, and decidedly wanting in a sense of humour:—

"Cardinal Newman's letter to the Duke of Norfolk on Papal Infallibility is an example of criticism of the highest order. It is in imitation of his style of criticism that I am writing this book. He faces ugly facts; so will I. He refers to them with pain; so do I. He is only as unpleasant as the necessity of his object requires; I hope to be the same."

We need not tell our readers that the contrasts between Newman and Mr. Smith are nevertheless more striking than the resemblances. Still the further perusal of his book will tend to increase the reader's respect for him and wish that the Irish public would indeed ponder what he has to say. The cardinal fact from which he starts is that first declared by Prof. Mahaffy two years ago in his warning article, 'The Romanization of Ireland,' in the *Nineteenth Century*. Mr. Gerald Balfour, by his Local Government Act, has put the whole country under Roman Catholic, instead of Protestant, control. Not

only have the Catholics now all the local patronage in their hands, but Catholic societies are drawing up lists of the business houses in Dublin and elsewhere, with the number of Catholics employed, and recommending that, if these are not the overwhelming majority of the staff, such houses should be boycotted. Presently no poor Protestant will be allowed to earn a day's wage from a Catholic employer. These are things which Mr. Smith sees coming, and against which he employs all his eloquence. He protests against his countrymen being led by party papers, which conceal or distort all truths damaging to their party. He protests against their submitting blindly to their "hierarchy," who on matters of education, for example, are not speaking *ex cathedra*, and have no authority beyond that of lay advisers. He sees clearly that the new Irish democracy has been given political supremacy without the spiritual enlightenment absolutely necessary to prevent stupid mistakes and vulgar tyranny. He knows his facts very well, and has evidently thought long and seriously upon Irish affairs. The only blatant blunder in his book is the statement that "Ireland can never be a very rich or prosperous country. Irish loyal Home Rulers know how poor their country is; they know how she is becoming a palsied and depopulated country," &c. They know nothing of the kind. Here Mr. Smith has been deluded by the Nationalist press in the very way he himself exposes. Ireland is really a very rich nation. The accumulated savings of three and three-quarter millions of people are actually about fifty million pounds sterling. The shares in every respectable bank are consequently at double or treble their original value in the market. Is it not, therefore, ridiculous to call such a nation poor? But it is true that this enormous sum is not invested in Irish industries, because in that country an intelligent notion of business and an independence from evil influences have not been yet attained by the mass of the people. If any idle or drunken workmen are dismissed, there is a strike for their reinstatement. The people will boycott their best friend and employer, if the parish priest denounces him from the altar. It is this absurdity in their business habits which prevents the mass of Irish Catholics from utilizing the enormous capital lying in the banks, which is now lent or invested in non-Irish "securities." This correction of Mr. Smith's admission will only help to strengthen his case. If the money is actually there, and is not available on account of the want of confidence in Irish labour and Irish diligence, how crying is the want of better education! And yet the Irish bishops set their faces against any education of which they have not themselves complete control.

We are not politicians, and we are not arguing this question with or against anybody. But we hope that such books as that before us will be largely read, and that faults of style or taste will not be permitted to mar their usefulness.

Ireland under English Rule, by Thomas A. Emmet (Putnam), is a work consisting mainly of extracts from histories, blue-books, and newspaper articles, and intended to prove, we presume, to the Irish-American public that it has been the deliberate and consistent policy of the English Government, from Henry II. to Edward VII., to depress, plunder, and torment Ireland. The author tells us he had great difficulty in finding a publisher; we are surprised that he ever succeeded. It is stated on the cover that he has endeavoured to be impartial; but never in the course of our reviewing have we met with so disastrous a failure. Ireland has had many just causes of complaint against England, and a temperate enumera-

tion of them would be a melancholy task, very inexpedient at the present time, when sensible men of both nations are striving to heal the wounds of the past. But Dr. Emmet's book, unless it be intended to raise money among the most ignorant American-Irish for the purpose of feeding agitation, can have little effect except to excite contempt or ridicule. It is enough for us to exhibit the accuracy and fairness of this performance by a series of extracts, which speak for themselves: "Phoenix, the brother of Cadmus, was King of Scythia and ancestor of the Milesians of Spain who came to Ireland, and brought with them the Irish alphabet." At the time of the invasion of Henry II. Ireland was full of colleges and of learned and enlightened men, who had sent missionaries all over Europe (which may be true for the seventh and eighth centuries), "and it is believed, if the truth could be established, that England's first university of Oxford had thus its origin." "A Norse navigator, who landed in North America in the beginning of the eleventh century, found the people speaking Irish." So much for Dr. Emmet's archaeology. We are then told that all this learning was ruined by Henry II. and his successors, though presently we hear that "for some four hundred years after this time English authority was confined entirely to the Pale—a limited tract of country extending from Dublin to the south-west [*viz.*]. But the whole island was kept in constant turmoil from the attacks of the English in their quest of plunder."

Not one word about Irish universities and colleges, or about Irish chieftains and their disputes! The violences and injustices of "Thomas, Earl of Strafford, afterwards Lord Wentworth," are then described. But we had almost passed by the account of Trinity College in the second volume. Here we find that

"Trinity College, Dublin, was established by the Catholics during the reign of Henry VIII. [before his apostasy]. During Elizabeth's reign Trinity College was seized from the Catholics and most liberally endowed with Catholic confiscated property."

Then comes:—

"Within a few years past a university has been established by the Government in the north, and another in the west of Ireland, one for the Presbyterians, and another for the Methodists; and both liberally endowed with money raised on Irish taxation. Yet the Catholics," &c.

"The propriety was admitted without question that the Presbyterians and Methodists could not be expected to conform to the course at Trinity College, Dublin, under the Church of England, yet the Catholics," &c.

Verily a new contribution to the Irish University question: "Risum teneatis, amici"! We conclude with a little florilegium on the present state of the country:—

"The spirit of conciliation is unknown to the English official in Ireland. The excessive number of troops and constabulary force in the country are chiefly employed to create disorder, to furnish testimony when necessary by perjury or for packing the jury box."

Speaking of the excessive number and pay of the Supreme Court judges, in which allegation there is much truth, the author adds, "And they are all politicians, truculent, abusive, and tyrannical." What a tit-bit for Lord Ashbourne and his grave colleagues! But the climax is the description of Mr. Balfour's last Coercion Act, "when throughout Ireland as peaceful a condition existed as ever exists in that unhappy country":—

"In a few days, as he intended, the whole country was thrown into a state of turmoil by the suspension of all law but the brutal promptings of the Government officials. At no time, in the absence of war and pestilence, did the Irish people suffer more than during this period. Innocent persons were murdered, shot down, and kicked to death by the brutal police and soldiers without even reprimand from those in command. An unknown number of men, women, boys, and girls were unjustly imprisoned, often simply to gratify private malice. They

were starved, in several instances stripped naked in the depth of winter," &c.

Ending, "Those who suffered most have complained the least, being too proud to gratify the Government officials."

Yet all this time, as we can testify from personal knowledge, that brutal tyrant, Mr. Balfour, was not only travelling about Ireland in perfect security, but even enjoying among the poor people the greatest popularity. Such are the astonishing contrasts between the Ireland of reality and the Ireland which Dr. Emmet has found in the columns of the Irish-American press.

We pass to a very different and yet kindred work. *Lady Anne's Walk*, by Miss Eleanor Alexander (Arnold), is a little book of delicate and cultivated gossip about the Archbishop's Palace and the Cathedral at Armagh, in the days when Lady Anne Beresford kept house for her magnificent brother, Lord John George, the last and most dignified of the ecclesiastical princes of Ireland. No man kept greater state, not only in Armagh, but also in London, where his black-and-gold liveries were well known. Commanding a fortune, official and private, of some 20,000*l.* a year, long before the days of modern millionaires, unmarried, and far above any temptation to vicious extravagance, this princely man has left memories about Armagh which will last all the longer through future generations because the days of archiepiscopal splendour are gone never to return. There is, indeed, a melancholy appropriateness in the collection of these memoirs by Miss Alexander, whose father dates his episcopacy from the old régime, and who is the last Primate likely to fill the place with a dignity worthy of its great traditions; for his literary and social pre-eminence indemnifies him in public esteem for the loss of title and income. Since Disestablishment, which moment another princely Beresford was Primate, worthy and pious men have been appointed, and in the future other worthy and pious men will be appointed, but they will not be Primates in the sense of Lord John George or Marcus Beresford, or of Dr. Alexander.

To judge from this volume, the present Primate's social gifts have descended upon his daughter, for nothing can be more agreeable, and indeed artistic, than the easy flow of conversation with which she carries us to and fro from St. Patrick to the Beresfords, from St. Brigid to Lady Anne. She loves the legends and traditions which still linger about the see of St. Patrick, and we feel that the hard northern Protestant, now typical of Armagh, is not to her so congenial as the old Irish remnant which still peoples the north all through the Ulster Plantation; for bishops and colleges were allowed to let land to the existing Irish tenants, and so the land of the sees, and that of Trinity College, are still full of the descendants of O'Neill's subjects. An invasion of insolent motor-car grandees to spend an hour in the cathedral city is narrated with delightful humour. We are almost tempted to quote in full her description of the attendant lady, the modern parasite, whose life consists in hanging on to the rich and the great, and making herself useful or agreeable at the cost of all individuality and dignity. But this interlude only expresses the usual attitude of the modern English visitor. Miss Alexander represents in all her pleasant talk the very best that the old Anglo-Irish society has accomplished for Ireland. However Nationalists may fume and rave, the English who really settled in Ireland, and made their Irish possessions their real home—these represent what is best and greatest in the country. Many of them have been patriots even to the point of leading insurrections against England; all of them, and not least the Beresfords in

their three centuries of Irish life, have developed qualities distinct from those of the English type, talents which have more than once dominated the English nation. To repudiate these splendid mongrels as not Irish is as silly as it would be to repudiate the Celts, because they once came to replace the primitive pre-Aryan population of the land.

Miss Alexander's book is very slight and does not profess any learning; it nevertheless reproduces the atmosphere in which she lives, and in which the Protestants of Armagh have lived for generations, far more vividly than strings of selected quotations. The day is approaching when the gentler sort of these Protestants will have left the country; their houses will be occupied by farmers and shopkeepers, who will make more money, but who will be long before they learn how to spend it. The established clergy of the Irish Church who employed Roman Catholic labour, gave in charity to Roman Catholics, and even made their wills for them without claiming a share for their Church, are gone; they are replaced by a more active, and perhaps more pious generation, but can any one who knew Ireland forty years ago help regretting the grievous social decadence of the new order?

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

DR. G. R. PARKIN, who is a most able writer on colonial affairs—with whom, however, we do not fully agree—contributes an excellent preface to a volume published by Mr. Arthur Humphreys under the title *Problems of Empire*, and containing a contradictory bundle of 'Papers and Addresses by the Hon. T. A. Brassey.' Mr. Brassey appears to have been a Liberal Free Trader and a Conservative Protectionist within a short period, and Dr. Parkin attenuates the sharpness, in the American phrase, of his author's "curve." The doctrine of the preface is that the work of the Imperial Federation League was valuable; that it produced a large amount of accepted conviction—indeed, a decisive evolution of opinion; and that the League should not have been dissolved. The dissolution, Dr. Parkin thinks, not only "gave offence to members of the League in Canada," which we do not doubt, but "was rejected by those of Australia." The weak point, however, is that the League and all its views was and is repudiated by every political party, and by almost every leading politician, in Australia, and it was the impossibility of failing to see the ill effect which was being produced upon Australian opinion which really led to the dissolution of the Imperial Federation League. Dr. Parkin and Mr. Brassey appear to think that before colonial representation in Parliament, to which they apparently look forward, is possible, there must be federal government for the United Kingdom. Mr. Brassey, alluding to Australia, declares that we have no right to expect considerable money contributions to the defence of the Empire until we are prepared to give Australia a constitutional voice in the control of the expenditure. This is, we think, a Canadian rather than an Australian doctrine. It is couched in Sir Wilfrid Laurier's words, which have never found an echo in the policy of any of the parties in Australia. Dr. Parkin explains in the preface that "it is natural that a candidate for Parliamentary honours" should wish his future constituents to know his conclusions, and the path along which his mind has travelled to arrive at them. "The author would himself probably be the last to say that between his first utterances upon the question and the last there is absolute fixedness and consistency of statement."

The Statesman's Year-Book for 1904 (Macmillan) is edited, as usual, by Dr. Scott Keltie and Mr. I. P. A. Renwick. The trade

information brought together for the fiscal controversy is impartial and sufficient. The map showing in colours the exports, to various parts of the world, of British and Irish produce and manufactures will be found most striking by those who are not well acquainted with the facts. There are colours to show cases, for example, where the percentage of British imports, out of the total import trade of the colony or country, is from 45 to 60, from 30 to 45, and from 1 to 15 per cent. respectively. In the 45 to 60 per cent. class will be found foreign countries such as Peru, Morocco, and the French Ivory Coast. In the class where we send 30 to 45 per cent. of the total imports of the country will be found, along with Australia, the Argentine Republic, Chile, the Republic of Colombia, and Portugal. The United States and the Dominion of Canada come together with the same colour, indicating 15 to 30 per cent., a colour which also prevails over Brazil, China, Persia, Afghanistan, and the whole of the Russian Empire. In the preliminary tables we note the omission to lump the figures for the production of wheat, and also those of barley and oats, in the case of the Dominion. They are given for some separate provinces and for the territories. Those for the Commonwealth are totalled, as well as given for the separate States. The reason possibly is that in the case of the Dominion the figures for Quebec and some of the maritime provinces are omitted, probably on account of their unimportance.

In the excellent tables and narrative on naval questions, for which Mr. Jane is, we are told, partly responsible—and it may be wholly responsible—we note a new diagram showing the extensive use of Belleville boilers in nearly all the fleets of the world. The mixed system under which both cylindrical and water-tube boilers are placed on board men-of-war—which has, we think, been imitated by us from Germany—may possibly affect these diagrams, in which, however, it is not mentioned. When we turn to Germany we find an account of the total number of water-tube boilers of different types, and it is, of course, possible that cylindrical boilers, used to some extent in connexion with them, are merely left out of the account, which they would not disturb. In the cost of the German fleet there seems to be, as there was last year, a discrepancy between some of the figures given and the official figures published by our own Government in Parliamentary returns. The Admiralty state the naval expenditure of Germany as having been about ten millions sterling in 1902, and ten and a quarter millions in 1903; and the Government have given other replies, from which it would appear that the navy expenditure is one-third of the military expenditure. We find in 'The Statesman's Year-Book' similar figures in a table of 'The Chief Branches of Imperial Expenditure, Ordinary and Extraordinary'; but in another table giving 'Estimated Total Expenditure' the figures are very different, the army falling short of the entire figures, ordinary and extraordinary, just referred to, by a small amount, but the navy figuring there for less than half the real amount. This fact is, no doubt, to be accounted for by the naval expenditure being under statute. The figures, however, require explanation, inasmuch as on a previous page the account of extraordinary expenditure is given, as well as of extraordinary revenue (namely, from loans and such-like sources), and these figures do not appear fully to account for the naval expenditure; for though the total extraordinary expenditure would cover it, there would be little margin for the other extraordinary expenditure annually marked as such in the German budgets. We imagine that the figures given in the table named by us, 'Chief Branches of Imperial Expenditure,' are right as far as the navy is concerned, and they show a very rapid

increase; but we somewhat doubt whether the military figures are complete, inasmuch as they show a reduction for some years, and do not appear to account for certain extraordinary expenditure in connexion with rearmament.

Another subject on which we should like to feel sure that our information is accurate and complete concerns the French debt. In a table of the 'Year-Book,' which figured in it also last year, the French debt of January 1st, 1889, is given, as well as that of 1899 and 1902, and a very great increase is shown both in principal and interest, especially the latter, in the ten years between 1889 and 1899. We doubt whether in these figures like is compared with like; and we doubt whether there was in the period any such real increase. The sum given for January 1st, 1889, corresponds with an official figure which has been published in France, purporting to give the consolidated debt of January 1st, 1890; but the real debt was at that time vastly greater—as great, indeed, as the latest figure, and this goes to show that there has not been the recent increase generally believed. There has, however, been a vast increase since the conclusion of the war expenditure in 1873, in the earlier and not in the later years. It is a curious fact that there should be so much doubt upon this subject. An official document published by our Government shows the French debt under each head in the utmost detail; and unless it is wholly misleading, there has been rather a decrease than an increase in the French debt in recent years up to 1902. Yet it seems difficult to understand where error has crept in, as each class of securities is fully accounted for. The funded debt and the interest on it are there shown to have considerably decreased in the years between 1893 and 1902 inclusive; while the floating debt had fluctuated a good deal, but stood in 1901 at a figure lower than that of 1893. On the other hand, a statesman of the first rank has made in the French Parliament assertions to the opposite effect, and the most careful private inquiry has produced figures different again both from M. Ribot's and from those published by our Government. It is very difficult even for the French Ministry of Finance to know exactly how they stand, inasmuch as many of the annuities are scattered through what the French call "Comptes extra-budgétaires ou comptes spéciaux." We believe, however, on the whole, strange as it may seem, that our Blue-book is right, and the speakers in the French Chamber wrong; inasmuch as the Blue-book figures correspond with those arrived at by the Ministry of Finance for early years, in the case of which the accounts have long since been completely made up. According to the speeches in the debate of January 19th of last year, there was equilibrium in the French finances between 1895 and 1899, but a heavy deficit in 1901. According to M. Ribot, there was in 1902 a large fresh creation of debt, of which he declared that over two millions sterling was borrowed by loan, the suggestion being that the rest was floating debt. There is no sign whatever of this creation of funded debt in our Government figures. But as the corresponding figures for floating debt in the last return end with 1901, it is not yet possible to feel sure as to this side of the account. We are convinced, however, that the figures in 'The Statesman's Year-Book' for 1889 and 1899 do not, as we have written, compare like with like, and we cannot account in any way for the enormous increase in interest set forth in the corresponding column.

We should like to suggest to the editors that if the coal of the British Empire is to be again tabulated, account should in future be taken of oil, which is likely to become of at least equal importance. It will be seen that we have hardly been able to discover a fault in this excellent volume. But we will suggest

one in the absence of a sufficient account of the Channel Islands and of the Isle of Man, which having systems of government and of finance wholly separate from that of the United Kingdom, and being most curious survivals of an interesting past, deserve a treatment which is indeed rendered necessary by the difficulties of applying to them any general legislation which concerns the empire.

The Book of Italian Travel, by Mr. H. Neville Maugham (Grant Richards), is mainly a sort of anthology from writers, the greater part English, of various dates and degrees of merit. So far as the more recent are concerned, the work has been, if anything, better done by the late Augustus Hare; but one is glad to have Montaigne, Lassels, Evelyn, Eustace, and others, who seem to have been outside Hare's ken. If the author had confined himself to "l'esprit des autres," there would have been little fault to find with him, except the absence of an index to the writers quoted. But he has interspersed a good deal of his own, from which we gather that he "cannot read with any patience," what he calls "Heine's 'Italienische Reisebilder'"; that he supposes Dante to have fought at the battle of Mont' Aperti, five years before he was born; that he thinks Galileo discovered the movement of the celestial bodies; and that he has heard of "a poet from Lyons called Sidonius Apollinaris." To what language he supposes "Mirabilia Urbis Romæ" and "fabricæ lignæ coppertæ de canna" to belong does not appear. On the whole, we think he is as yet hardly qualified to sneer at Ruskin, or to start paradoxes about Florence having "always been essentially a city of mystics." He has not, by the way, any very high opinion of Savonarola.

The Autobiography of a Thief (G. P. Putnam's Sons) is supposed to be the actual life of a criminal, edited and recorded by Mr. Hutchins Hapgood, and its almost unrelieved sordidness, apart from other qualities, leads one to think that it is a genuine document. To a great extent (tiresomely so at times) the story has been told in the thief's own words. But this feature is not without interest to the student of philology. For example, in Australia the slang word for work of every sort and kind, from that of the head of a State to that of a crossing-sweeper, is "graft." All sorts and conditions of people use the word in this connexion. In New York "graft" is thieves' patter for stealing. It is, of course, possible that convicts introduced the word into Australia. The point in this book which will most impress the English reader is the astounding corruption it suggests in the administration of justice in America. The writer by no means mentions these things as one having an abuse to expose. He takes it as a matter of course that if a New York thief has discretion and money he can pretty nearly always rely on being able to "square" the police, the captains of wards, and even the higher judicial authorities. He proffers innumerable instances which go to prove that the understanding between the professional thieves and the police of New York is complete, that the police draw their regular percentages, that it is possible for a burglar to enjoy "police protection" in New York on the understanding that he confines his burglaries to places outside the city, that police-officers look to get a share of the proceeds of the burglar's plunder even when they have him secured in a police-cell, and that sentences are made light or heavy in various mysterious ways, according to the prisoner's "fall money," the name he gives to the fund he has set aside for use when he is arrested, or when he "falls." Also one gathers, as a matter of course, that the professional criminal with money does very much as he pleases in prison. By a system referred to as the

"Underground Tunnel," he receives opium, tobacco, food, and the like, and can spend twenty-three hours out of each twenty-four in lying down, reading, and smoking in his cell. But if he has no money, or declines to avail himself of bribery, his life is apt to be made a perfect hell, and the brutality of warders, both in prison and in the criminal lunatic asylums, is described as being only excelled by their corruptness. The whole forms a sordid, dismal narrative; but, if it is anything like true, it is very striking.

We are glad to notice the honour done to a good book on a great subject manifested in the splendid reprint of the translation of Prof. H. Oldenberg's *Buddha*, by Mr. A. L. Humphreys. It is perhaps rather characteristic of the uncritical standpoint prevalent in matters Indian that it should be a mere reprint of a translation made twenty-two years ago, thus taking no account of the distinguished author's latest views as embodied both in his own fourth edition of 1903, and even in the French translation (two editions) of M. A. Foucher. The beautiful type and paper of the reprint should make it acceptable to all book-lovers.

To some minds it seems offensive to talk of taste in religious feeling, and to these *Pa Gladden*, by Elizabeth Cherry Waltz (Hodder & Stoughton), may safely be recommended. It is called a story, but it has no pretensions to construction, being merely a series of episodes in the life of a Kentucky farmer whose simple religious faith is always with him, directing and animating the whole course of his daily duties. There is a sort of homely raciness about Mrs. Waltz's book, and a genuine simplicity of feeling which must appeal strongly to a not over-fastidious taste. The dialect is a drawback; it is sometimes hard to make out, and to an English reader it savours of the town rather than of the country. The book does not quite please a cultivated taste. It is easy to prefer Mrs. Godolphin or Eugénie de Guérin as a model of devout life in the world, and one feels that religion and Biblical quotations constantly brought to the surface in everyday talk have a touch of familiarity, though one cannot add that they are by no means vulgar.

THE firm of Calmann-Lévy publish a new volume by Pierre Loti, entitled *Vers Ispahan*. It is difficult to see why this title was chosen to cover a journey across Persia from the Gulf to the Caspian. The first part of the narrative, however, which would be properly covered by the title, is written much more fully than the latter, which tells of the subsequent portions of the journey, including a visit to the capital. Pierre Loti's style is as perfect as usual, but the volume is almost exclusively concerned with description, and contains hardly any trace of the fantastic development of character, more or less imaginary, which has formed an important part of other volumes from the same hand. The present book is a prolonged form of one of those pictures which, as a rule, Pierre Loti has given only in a few pages, and several examples of which are brought together in volumes like his "Propos d'Exil." Pierre Loti's dislike of England has been shown in his books on India, and is also known from allusions in other volumes, as, for example, one in the recent book of Mlle. Vacaresco. It comes out in this Persian volume. He is asked on the road if it is true that the English are sending plague patients from England to Arabia in order to propagate the disease. "There! I do not know what to answer. It was the current rumour at Muscat when I came through that place, but the charge is *bien excessive*." There is another sentence of the same kind less playfully turned.

MR. EYELEIGH NASH publishes *My Memories and Miscellanies*, by the Countess of Munster, a book by a grandchild of William IV. and Mrs. Jordan. She married her first cousin, another grandson of the same pair, and she writes pleasantly about King William and her early days. There is not much in the book which has not been already exhibited by copious quotations in the daily press, but it will probably have its public as a collection of good-humoured gossip about times little known to the ordinary reader of to-day.

AN attractive addition to Messrs. Newnes's "Thin-Paper Classics" is *Letters of Horace Walpole*, selected by C. B. Lucas, which affords abundant entertainment, though we doubt if the present age can relish the scholarly side of it.

MESSRS. SEELEY have sent us *The Spectator in London*, and Mr. Lee's *Stratford-on-Avon*, in an "Illustrated Pocket Library," which is commended alike by its general get-up and illustrations. The volumes are issued in limp cloth at a very reasonable price.

GIBBON'S *Roman Empire*, Vol. IV., and Adam Smith's *Wealth of Nations*, Vol. I., have appeared in "The World's Classics" (Grant Richards). It was a good idea to adopt the same shape and size for "The Boys' Classics" (same publisher), which open with *The Captain of the Guard* and Mr. Midshipman Easy. The elaborate design on the cover of pillar, lamp, and wreath we do not like at all; it is horribly crude in colour. Surely the title of the series on a plain ground of red would be preferable.

MESSRS. W. DAWSON & SONS, of Cannon House, Bream's Buildings, send us their list of over four thousand five hundred English and foreign newspapers and magazines. What makes the list so valuable is that the price is given to each, including rates for Great Britain, also for colonial and foreign postage. We notice many changes in this record since last year. The instruction to "destroy old lists" is therefore useful.

WE have on our table *The Book of Sir Galahad*, by Sir Thomas Malory (The Astolat Press),—*The Secret of Herbart*, by F. H. Hayward (Sonnenschein),—*Proceedings of the Cambridge Antiquarian Society, 1902-1903*, No. XLIV. (Cambridge, Deighton & Bell),—*Mathematical Papers for Army Classes*, by H. S. Brabant (Relfe Brothers),—*Smithsonian Miscellaneous Collections*, Vol. XLV., Parts I. and II. (Washington, Smithsonian Institution),—*Logarithms for Beginners*, by C. N. Pickworth (Whittaker),—*Schiller's Der Neffe als Onkel*, edited by the Rev. H. J. Chaytor (Blackie),—*A Book of German Songs*, collected by O. B. Powell (Blackie),—*The Gold Whip*, by Nat Gould (Everett),—*Caliban*, by F. Warren (Diprose & Bateman),—*Felicita: a Romance of Old Siena*, by C. Hare (Harper),—*The Peril of an Empire*, by R. Johnston (Chatto & Windus),—*Gottlieb Krumm, made in England*, by G. Darien (Everett),—*Wordsworth's Grave*, by W. Watson (Lane),—*Ad Matrem*, Poems by J. Gray (Sands & Co.),—*Granmaile, a Queen of the West*, by C. R. Panter (Jarrold),—*Representative Modern Preachers*, by L. O. Brastow (Macmillan),—*The Twelve Apostles*, by G. Milligan (Dent),—*George Farquhar, sein Leben und seine Original-Dramen*, by Dr. D. Schmid (Vienna, Braumüller),—and *Friedrich Nietzsche, Darstellung und Kritik*, by J. J. Hollitscher (Vienna, Braumüller).

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BISHOP HOBHOUSE.

THE death of Bishop Hobhouse at an advanced age removes a scholar of real distinction, who would probably have made considerable mark as an ecclesiastical historian had not long ill-health and weakened eyesight intervened. He took his degree from Balliol in 1838, and held a Merton fellowship from 1841 to 1858. During this last period he was also vicar of St. Peter's-in-the-East. He devoted himself to the work of that parish with what at that time was considered rare assiduity, and was then and throughout his life a decided High Churchman. When Bishop Selwyn returned from New Zealand to secure the subdivision of his vast colonial diocese, he considered himself fortunate in securing the co-operation of Dr. Hobhouse, who was consecrated to the newly formed diocese of Nelson in 1858. Just before leaving England he published a valuable sketch of the life of Walter de Merton, the distinguished ecclesiastic and founder of Merton College. This treatise, based on original research, is of no small value as a side light on Henry III.'s reign. It had been his intention to produce a far larger volume, for which he had made considerable collections, but his acceptance of a colonial bishopric interrupted the plan, and it was only the strong representations of some of his Oxford colleagues that persuaded him to arrange for the publication of the smaller book before he departed to his episcopate.

On the return to England of G. A. Selwyn as Bishop of Lichfield, he was soon followed by the Bishop of Nelson, and from 1869 to 1880 Edmund Hobhouse served with much success as one of the assistant bishops of Lichfield. He had a considerable mastery over the intricacies of ecclesiastical law, and was thoroughly well equipped in mediæval precedents. For a short period he held the responsible post of Chancellor of the diocese, an office which very few clergymen living could have discharged so well. Failing health compelled him to relinquish any form of active clerical life, and more than twenty years ago he retired to Wells, Somerset, where he ended his days. His relaxation at Lichfield was found in the study of early episcopal act books, and in the arrangement and translation of the stores of capitular documents.

His contributions to English ecclesiastical history were of a sound, scholarly character. When he was in his prime there was no official of the Public Record Department nor professional record agent who could have surpassed the ease with which he mastered old hands and the most crabbed of contractions from Henry III.'s reign onwards. It was the rarest thing for the Bishop to be puzzled by even the most unusual term of Low or Middle Latin. Before he left England, Oxford well knew his attainments in this direction. On one occasion, in the late "fifties," a student, who afterwards reached some eminence as an historian, asked a question of Bodley's Librarian concerning the meaning of an out-of-the-way word in a monastic chartulary. "Ah," was the reply, "ask the tall man reading at that desk, it's Hobhouse of Merton; he's a walking Du Cange, and always good-natured; it will save you much time." The librarian's advice was followed, and the required information was at once forthcoming.

When the William Salt Archeological Society was formed, in 1879, for the elucidation of Staffordshire history, Hobhouse was a thorough

supporter of the scheme, and his was the chief contribution to the first volume (1880). He was one of the first to recognize the historical value of episcopal registers, and his contribution took the form of a long analysis of the register of Roger de Norbury, who was Bishop of Coventry and Lichfield from 1322 to 1358. On leaving Lichfield he handed over his collections on the Lichfield capitular muniments to the Rev. Dr. Cox, who shortly afterwards produced a volume on the subject, the initiation and general revision of which were the work of Bishop Hobhouse.

When he was in retirement at Wells it was his pleasure, whenever health permitted, to follow up his ecclesiastical researches, and the Somerset Record Society found in him its best supporter and worker from the very day that he took up his residence in that county. In 1887 Dr. Hobhouse produced the calendar of the register of John de Droghensford, Bishop of Bath and Wells from 1309 to 1329. In 1890 he brought out a volume on the pre-Reformation Churchwarden Accounts of the Somersetshire parishes of Croscombe, Pilton, Patton, Tintinhull, Morebath, and St. Michael's, Bath. This was his best and most original work, for the introduction is a storehouse of soundly based information as to the parochial life of the later period of Mediæval England. In 1891 he was responsible for introductory notes to the 'Rentalia et Custumalia' of Michael de Ambresbury, Abbot of Glastonbury; and in 1894 he was joint editor of two valuable monastic chartularies, those of the Austin priory of Bruton and the Cluniac priory of Montacute.

Nor did the Bishop's work by any means end with volumes and contributions that appear under his own name. He was instrumental, in his own quiet way, in indoctrinating several younger men with his own spirit of patient and thorough investigation, and almost to the last was ready to help others. This is not the place to write of the many lovable and gentle qualities which endeared him to not a few who knew him both in his prime and in the long-continued days of weaker health, but Edmund Hobhouse will be sorely missed, particularly in all that concerns ecclesiastical research.

THE SHAKSPEARE EXHIBITION IN THE BRITISH MUSEUM.

IN the King's Library at the British Museum an extremely interesting collection of Shakspeariana has been put on exhibition in connexion with the celebrations of last week. It appeals to serious students of the plays, and at the same time is eminently calculated to interest the general reader, who sees, perhaps, for the first time what Shakspeare's contemporaries read and wrote about him in the very form in which it appeared. An exhibition like this, containing no rubbish, is a lesson in taste sorely needed.

The first case contains the Shakspeare deed of 1613; an Ireland forgery; the Manningham Diary, describing the production of 'Twelfth Night,' February 2nd, 1602, with a reprint; Norden's Map of London (1593), showing the position of Bankside, opposite Blackfriars; and Dugdale's 'Warwickshire' (1656), with the drawing of the Shakspeare monument to which Mrs. Stopes has just called attention in an article which is the most important contribution to Shakspeare iconography of recent times.

The second contains some manuscripts, of which the most interesting is Killigrew's proposed emendations to 'Julius Cæsar.' In the pages before us he proposes to leave out "Et tu, Brute," in the dying speech of Cæsar, as tending to reproach Brutus, and discusses (*temp. Charles II.*) how it is that such an ardent lover of liberty as himself can feel any sympathy for Cæsar, a question which he resolves by the

tacit contract entered into after Pharsalia by Brutus when he continued living, to accept Cæsar as ruler. It is obvious, as he modestly observes, that "many understand the beauties of Shakspeare better than me." Some school verses, written about 1663 by Master Edmund Wheeler, "generosi filii," to the ladies present on prize day, show that Shakspeare had come to his own:—

To give such guests the welcome which is due
 Would pose a Shakspeare and a Jonson too.

The other lines, promising a more adequate welcome in the refreshment rooms, are worthy of these. Letters from Theobald and Hamner to Warburton show us the growth of Shakspeare criticism.

A third case presents virtually all the contemporary notices of Shakspeare. Here are Greene's 'Groatsworth of Wit' (1592), "The upstart crow.....Shakspeare"; Willobie his 'Avisa' (1594); Chettle's 'Kind Harts Dreame' (1593), with apology for Greene's attack; Meres's 'Palladis Tamia' (1598), which gives a list of his plays (twelve), including 'Titus Andronicus'; Webster's 'White Devil' (1612); Davies's 'Scourge of Folly' (1610); 'Polimanteia' (1595); 'The Return from Parnassus' (1602); and Freeman's 'Rubbe and a Great Cast' (1614).

The fourth case contains a collection of Shakspeare's sources, so displayed that the casual reader can identify actual passages used. The works shown are 'The Palace of Pleasure' ('Timon' and 'Romeo'), Golding's 'Ovid' ('Midsummer Night's Dream'), Montaigne, 'Euphues Golden Legacie' (the wrestling scene in 'As You Like It'), Holinshed (Macbeth, &c.), 'Promos and Cassandra' ('Measure for Measure'), Plutarch ('Cæsar,' &c.), Harsnet's 'Declaration' and Sidney's 'Arcadia' ('Lear'). The only important source we miss here is Brooke's 'Romeus and Juliet,' which unfortunately the Museum does not possess.

The fifth case contains a number of seventeenth and eighteenth century adaptations—Davenant's 'Macbeth' (1674), Dryden's 'Tempest' (1670), Tate's 'Lear' (1681), Cibber's 'Richard III.' (1700), and Gilden's 'Measure for Measure' (1700), with 'Dido and Æneas' cut up and interspersed among the acts as a musical entertainment. Two early French (1746 and 1776) and two German (1762 and 1797) versions make up the case. The sixth contains an almost complete set of the eighteenth-century editors—Theobald, Hamner, Warburton, Rowe, Capell, Steevens, Pope, Johnson, Blair, and Malone. The seventh contains the four folios in splendid condition, while the eighth is devoted to quartos. Here are shown 'Romeo and Juliet' (1597), 'Love's Labour's Lost' (1598), 'The Merchant of Venice' (1600), 'Midsummer Night's Dream' (1600), 'Hamlet' (two editions, 1603 and 1605), 'Lear' (1608), and 'Troilus and Cressida' (1609), a small selection from the nearly complete set of quartos owned by the Museum. In the same case are the 'Lucrece' (1594) and the 'Sonnets' (1609). We regret the absence of 'Venus and Adonis' and 'The Passionate Pilgrim,' of which the nation does not possess copies.

It is a pleasure to acknowledge on behalf of students and the public their gratitude not only for this extremely well-chosen exhibition, but also for a series of others which from time to time have testified to the wish of the authorities to put some knowledge of the treasures of the Museum within reach of all.

HOGG'S 'SHELLEY AT OXFORD.'

26, Great Ormond Street, April 26th, 1904.

YOUR review of my edition of Hogg's 'Shelley at Oxford' is an example of criticism on a somewhat minute scale; but though the points to which you take exception are insignificant individually, the cumulative effect of your remarks is calculated to prejudice

readers against the book, and I must ask you to allow me space for a reply.

I will not linger over matters of personal opinion. Possibly I may be wrong in regarding Hogg's description of Shelley's Oxford days as substantially true; I naturally did not pretend to claim verbal accuracy for the conversations reported therein; but although you profess to entertain grave doubts of Hogg's veracity, I observe that you do not adduce any instances of its having been impugned by competent witnesses.

You protest against my observation that "save in the extracts that appear in various biographies of the poet," Hogg's 'Life of Shelley' is little known. It can, of course, like other rare books, be consulted in libraries by those who have leisure to do so; but it is not, as you aver, a "common" book. It has been out of print for many years, and is now extremely difficult to procure.

You blame me for following the arrangement of paragraphs and the punctuation adopted by Hogg in his 'Life,' in preference to that employed when his articles originally appeared in the *New Monthly Magazine*. I fear that in this you are presuming upon the indolence of your readers, any one of whom, if he took the trouble to look at the magazine, would see at a glance that the arrangement of Hogg's articles is of the most careless and slovenly character, being dictated apparently only by the desire to squeeze as much copy as possible into the space available. Thus the second article breaks off in the middle of the account of the supper, and the third ends abruptly half-way through the description of the "trim and retired garden" visited by the two friends. To follow closely such a happy-go-lucky arrangement as this would have been absurd, and I therefore ventured upon an independent arrangement of the work into chapters—a point which I perceive that you find it convenient to ignore. But even if the original arrangement of the articles were far more satisfactory than it is, it would surely be better to follow Hogg's own plan, as we find it in the 'Life,' rather than that of the editor, of whose maltreatment of his work Hogg complained so bitterly. With regard to the punctuation, I confess that I have ventured upon a few alterations, when the elaborate character of that used by Hogg would have rendered his meaning obscure to readers accustomed to modern methods. Similarly the three words, the loss of which you deplore, were omitted in order to make the meaning of a particularly involved sentence more immediately obvious. I cannot agree with you that the sense of the passage is altered in the smallest degree.

Your observations with regard to *Konx ompax*, if I may venture to say so, are slightly disingenuous, since, by accusing me of having suppressed Hogg's Greek characters, you fail to suggest to an ordinary reader what is actually the case, namely, that Hogg himself prints the words in English characters twice out of three times, a proceeding so eminently calculated to mislead those who are not acquainted with the Greek alphabet, that I ventured, once for all, to make up Hogg's mind for him, and to print the phrase in English characters at each of its three appearances.

I omitted Hogg's foot-note on p. 160 because he did so himself in his 'Life of Shelley,' which I persist in regarding as the final authority in textual matters, and I do not think that it would occur to any one but a reviewer bent upon faultfinding at all hazards to regret its absence. I will venture to say the same of the impertinent editorial observation interpolated by Lord Lytton in the last but one of Hogg's articles in the *New Monthly Magazine*, which, of course, was also omitted when the article was reprinted in the 'Life.' It did not occur to me, I confess, that any modern reader would pretend to take an interest in the *obiter dicta* of "the padded man that wears the stays,"

especially with reference to Shelley, for whom—as plainly appears in the letter to Hogg published by the latter in the preface to his 'Life of Shelley'—he neither had nor professed to have any sympathy or admiration whatever.

R. A. STREATFIELD.

. As regards the "minute scale" of our notice, we cannot but think that the scale was at least commensurate with that of the editorial work done upon Hogg's articles. We do not fear that readers will be prejudiced, by our notes of detail, against a book which we have heartily commended to a new generation of readers. We maintain that Hogg's 'Life' is well and widely known as a piece of literature, and that from a collector's point of view it is a common book, not in any sense a rare book. Of course it is out of print! The terms "protest," "blame," "presuming," "convenient to ignore," "disingenuous," "faultfinding at all hazards," appear to us peculiarly inapposite as applied to the minutiae of remark on a book generally commended. The information afforded by us as to detail is all accurate. We have not a single point to retract; and we experience, even now, no wild impulse to laud the name of Mr. Streatfield for making up Hogg's mind for him, when he had already made it up for himself, by maintaining *konx ompax* in its Greek as well as its English garb; by omitting the note; or for ignoring the opinion expressed by Lord Lytton, who, on the whole, compares favourably with Hogg as a figure in literature, notwithstanding his stays.

M. OCTAVE GRÉARD.

THE death, on Monday last, of M. Octave Gréard is a serious loss to French culture. He was of the best type of the university man, and devoted the whole of his long life to the advancement of education.

Vallery Clément Octave Gréard was born at Vire, Calvados, on April 18th, 1828. From 1853 to 1865 he was successively professor at the Lycées of Metz, Versailles, and Paris; in 1865 he was appointed Inspecteur at the Académie de Paris; and in the following year he became Director of "Instruction Primaire" at Paris. Further appointments followed in rapid succession, and in 1879 he became Vice-Recteur of the Académie de Paris. In the meantime his published books had become numerous, the first of these being a 'Petit Précis de Littérature Française' (1864). This was followed by 'La Critique Littéraire dans Sénèque' (1866); 'Lettres d'Héloïse et d'Abélard' (1868); by a number of publications on primary and secondary instruction, one of his later books being a treatise on 'L'Éducation des Femmes par les Femmes' (1886); and by a work in four volumes, 'Education et Instruction' (1887).

One of his greatest works was his monograph on Meissonier (1897), of which an English version was published by Mr. Heinemann. It forms one of the most interesting and complete monographs ever published on a modern artist. Whatever may be the fate of Meissonier with posterity, nothing can detract from the charm and the interest of this beautiful book. M. Gréard also published two other important monographs—one on 'Madame de Maintenon: Extraits de ses Lettres, Entretiens, Conversations et Proverbes sur l'Éducation' (1884), and one on 'Prévoist-Paradol' (1894). For a long series of years he was a contributor to the *Revue Bleue*, the *Journal des Débats*, and other periodicals more particularly concerned with educational subjects.

M. Gréard was elected as far back as May 15, 1875, a member of the Académie des Sciences Morales et Politiques (Section de Morale), and on November 18th, 1886, became a member of the Académie Française; and in November, 1902, he was "nommé au Conseil de la Légion d'Honneur," and to the *fauteuil* "où s'était assis, en

des attitudes mélancoliques, M. Sully Prudhomme." M. Gréard, an excellent and learned man, appears in his long career of success and advancement to have retained the affection of all his friends and to have made no enemies. M. Gréard's life was singularly full, and on the morning of his death he presided at the Conseil Supérieur de l'Instruction Publique. Doubtless he thought, with Arnauld, "N'aurai-je pas toute l'Éternité pour me reposer?" W. R.

SALES.

MESSRS. SOTHEY, WILKINSON & HODGE included in their sale of books and MSS., on the 20th to the 23rd inst., the following important lots: Lamb's Prince Dorus, 1818, 227. Lillford's Birds, 1885-97, 487. Montesquieu, Le Temple de Gnide, dedication, copy to George III., elaborately bound, by Derome, 1772, 1007. Patisier François, Elzevir, 1655, 507. Loddiges's Botanical Cabinet, 20 vols., 1818-33, 367. Misale Sarisburiense, Lond., 1555, 217, 10s. Longus, Daphnis et Chloë, printed upon vellum, with plates in two states, 1787, 607. Misale ad Usam Ecclesie S. Apollinaris Valentie, MS. on vellum, fourteenth century, 947. Blagdon's Life of Morland, 1806, 357. Two folio pages of the Original Autograph MS. of Waverley, 497. Shakespeare's Works, by Rowe, 6 vols., large and thick paper, 1709, 407. Shelley's Vindication of Natural Diet, 1813, 837. Sterne's Sentimental Journey, large paper, first edition, 2 vols., 1768, 297. Surtees's Sporting Novels, first editions, 12 vols., 1843-65, 257, 10s. Thackeray, A Silver Punch Bowl, presented from the Publishers of 'Vanity Fair,' &c., 1007. Original Drawings by Thackeray (21), 787, 10s. Bodenham's England's Helicon, first edition, 1600, 807. Seventy-nine Autograph Letters and Account Book of Gilbert White, 3127. Shakespeare, Fourth Folio, 1685, 797. A Signature said to be by Shakespeare in an edition of Rastall's Statutes, 1598, 807. Statham's Abridgement de la Ley (Rouen, pour R. Pynson, 1490), 407. Chapman's Monsieur d'Olive, first edition, 1606, 207. Chapman, Jonson, and Marston's Eastward Hoe, 1605, 277. Thomas Heywood, The Silver Age, 1613, 407. The Hyewayne to the Spytell Hour, in verse, R. Copland, n.d., 457. New England's First Fruits, 1643, 307. George Peele's Battell of Alcazar, 1594, 527.

The same auctioneers included in their sale on the 23rd inst. the collections of the late W. G. Thorpe, F.S.A., and others, amongst which were A Kempis, de Imitatione Christi, first edition (Aug. Vind., 1471), 907. The Original Warrant committing John Bunyan to Bedford Gaol, signed by thirteen Justices, March 15th, 1674, 3057. Edward II's Charter of the Town of Portsmouth, February 12th, 1313, 457. Bishop Fisher's Fruitful Sayings of David, 1609, 227. Luther's Bible, with his Autograph, 1541, 347. Shakespeare, First Folio (very imperfect), 1623, 1817. Wesley's Psalms and Hymns, Charleston, 1737, 1067. Chapman's Al Fools, 1605, 847. The Widdowes Teares, 1612, 1067. History of the Tryall of Chevalry, 1605, 607. Cooke's Greene's Tu Quoque, 1614, 967. Day's The Fair Maide of Bristow, 1605, 897. The Isle of Guls, 1606, 517. Law Tricks, 1608, 887. Dekker's The Whore of Babylon, 1607, 1207. Westward Hoe, 1607, 777. Heywood's Loves Maistrasse, uncut, 1636, 867. Ben Jonson's Entertainment of King James, 1604, 1167. Chloridia, a Masque, 1630, 1457. Kyd's Spanish Tragedy, 1602, 407. Marston's Parasitaster, 1606, 607. What you Will, 1607, 1147. Return from Parnassus, 1608, 1067. Webster's The Malecontent, 1604, 707. Five Tracts from the Libraries of E. Spenser and G. Harvey, 1573-6, 1027. Watteau, L'Œuvre, 273 plates, large-paper proofs, n.d., 6207. Shakespeare's Second Part of Henrie the Fourth, first edition, 1600, 1,0357. Henry VIII., Assertio Septem Sacramentorum, Pynson, 1521, Archbishop Cranmer's copy, 907. Caxton's Ryal Booke, imperfect (1487-8), 2557. Vitæ Patrum, Wynkyn de Worde, 1495, 1517. Dives and Pauper, Pynson, 1493, 757.

Literary Gossip.

MRS. HUMPHRY WARD's new novel, which will begin to appear serially in *Harper's Magazine* for June, is to be called 'The Marriage of William Ashe.'

MR. FISHER UNWIN has arranged to publish a volume of 'Tales from Plutarch,' by Mr. F. Jameson Rowbottom. The book will consist of adaptations for young people of some of the most interesting of the

'Lives,' and will include many illustrations.

'THE PARADISE OF DOMINIC' is the title of the new novel which is to be published for Lucas Malet in the autumn. The work, it is said, is largely concerned with the doings of the *nouveaux riches* in English society.

THOUGH the late Dr. Smiles was in good physical health up to the last, yet he had been dead to the world for several years. When still able to write he prepared his 'Memoirs,' and put the finishing touch to them shortly before he ceased to use his pen. It is probable that Mr. Murray will soon publish them.

MISS MAY SINCLAIR has written a novel entitled 'The Divine Fire,' which will be published during the coming summer by Messrs. Constable & Co.

WE regret to notice the death in the Riviera of William Henry (Bullock) Hall, an excellent representative of the cultured English squire. Mr. Hall was at Rugby under Goulburn, and later at Balliol secured a first class in classical moderations in 1858. He was special correspondent of the *Daily News* throughout the Mexican troubles of 1864-5, at Rome in 1866-7, and in the Franco-Prussian War in 1870. An excellent cricketer in his day and all-round sportsman, owner of, perhaps, the finest shooting in England at Six-Mile Bottom, Newmarket, he took a wide interest in social questions, and also in literary and archaeological matters. At his house at Six-Mile Bottom he entertained many writers of repute, being an especial favourite with Jowett, while scholars of a much later time enjoyed the privilege of his ready interest and hospitality. Much of his time was spent in travel and unobtrusive philanthropy in London and in the various country places where he held property. His books include 'Polish Experiences, 1863-4,' 'Across Mexico in 1864-5,' 'Gleanings in Ireland after the Land Acts' (1883), and 'The Romans on the Riviera and the Rhone' (1898), the result of his archaeological studies in a favourite district.

THE Right Hon. A. J. Balfour has just been elected President of the London Library, in succession to the late Sir Leslie Stephen, and Mr. Frederic Harrison Vice-President. The institution thus maintains officially the distinction which its excellent condition and arrangements deserve.

THE American Booksellers' Association have agreed to accept the net-price system on the understanding that it is the publishers' intention to include within it, "as rapidly as possible," copyrighted fiction.

MR. HARTSHORNE writes:—

"In the notice in the *Athenæum* of April 16th of Mr. Cowan's edition of Joseph Taylor's 'Journey to Edenborough' in 1705 a quotation is given, illustrating the lack of cleanliness and the deficient morality of the women of Edinburgh at that time. I may supplement this account by a letter in my possession, showing that matters had not much improved twenty-three years later:—

Edinburgh Aug^y 18th 1728.

DEAR SR.—we have been in Scotland 6 or 7 days, y^e motive of our coming hither you know was Curiosity and that has also occasion'd our making so long a Stay here; None sure ever came into this Country for the Gratification of their sensual

Appetites of any Sort; their Provisions for the Belly are plenty enough and good in nature, but the Cooks never fail to spoil it in the Dressing, were all our Fellows to spend a week here they wou'd cease their Complaints and commend the neatness of Benet College Kitchen: The women in this part of Britain have no Allurements for one born and bred in the South. They must be hungry Dogs indeed who can dispense with such dirty Puddings; Monkish Chastity may be preserved here without particular Precepts, The Sluttishness of the Creatures is, I think a sufficient noli me tangere. I must do the Justice to Glascow to say the people there seem much more humanized than y^e rest of their Compatriots. Mr. Houbion. Mr. Eyles, and all our fellow Travellers are in good health and join with me in due respects to Your self and all Friends. we propose to hasten towards Cambridge with all convenient expedition. I shou'd be glad to have a letter at York from you, y^t I may know w^h 'twill be necessary for me to come to y^e University upon Duty.

I am Dear SR

Your most humble Ser^t

J: BUTLER.

"This letter was addressed by John Butler—who was elected fellow of Corpus Christi College in 1724, and died vicar of Stockbury, Kent, in 1738—to Samuel Kerich, D.D., for many years fellow and tutor of the College. He died vicar of Dersingham and rector of Wolferton and of West Newton in 1768."

At the last monthly meeting of the Booksellers' Provident Institution, Mr. C. J. Longman in the chair, the sum of 90l. 19s. 6d. was voted for the relief of fifty-five members and widows of members; three new members were elected, and three applications for membership were received.

THE Académie Française awarded on Saturday the Prix Gobert, of the value of 10,000 francs, for the "morceau le plus éloquent sur l'histoire de France et celui qui en approchera le plus." The first prize of 9,000 fr. was secured by the Marquis de Ségur for his work 'Le Maréchal de Luxembourg,' and the second prize of 1,000 fr. was secured by M. Thouvenel for his two works, 'Pages de l'Histoire du Second Empire, 1854-1866,' and 'Trois Années de la Question d'Orient, 1856-1859.'

AN "Exposition du Livre Moderne" will be opened at Antwerp in June (the exact date is not yet fixed), and will not close until September. It is proposed to confine it to books produced since 1875, and to include not only typographically fine books, but also every phase of book production—binding, illustration, engraving, paper-making, and so forth. The exhibition will take place in the four rooms just constructed at the Musée Plantin-Moretus, and those who are at all acquainted with the Belgian talent for such affairs need hardly be assured that it will be worth visiting. The committee is inviting exhibits.

CARMEN SYLVA intends to make her castle Segenheim, near Neuwied, into a home for aged and invalid authors.

A SOCIETY FOR EXPERIMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY has been founded at Giessen, the chief object of which is to secure the regular meeting of the Congress for experimental study of the subject. Foreigners are admitted as members, and will be duly represented on the committee. The next Congress will assemble at Wurzburg in 1906.

THE Parliamentary Papers of the week include a Report of the Board of Education on the Administration of Schools under the Welsh Intermediate Education Act, 1889 (1d.).

SCIENCE

A Study of British Genius. By Havelock Ellis. (Hurst & Blackett.)

THE wealth of material gathered within the pages of the 'Dictionary of National Biography' could not fail to attract and reward, as it has already done, multitudes of workers in all departments of literature. The present volume supplies an example of constructive generalization based wholly upon material gathered from that splendid record of national achievement. "Genius" is here defined as the possession of qualities which have earned from the editors of the 'Dictionary' not less than three pages of their print, and Mr. Ellis's study of it consists in the rearrangement of personal details supplied by the National Biographers. From this arbitrary collection crowned heads and some other high-born persons have been excluded wherever their eminence has been the evident result of the accident of birth. Others, again, have been added to the list in whose case biographical prolixity appears to have been unjustly withheld. With these modifications the total number of the select shows 975 men and 55 women of "genius," with regard to whom Mr. Ellis draws up his generalizations. His investigations, he says, rather boldly, "start from the point where Mr. Galton's left off"; certainly he has made a book which contains some very interesting and suggestive matter, and which will further the prominence Mr. Ellis is attaining among those who may be described as the journalists of science.

In the method of his study Mr. Ellis has been obliged to submit, by his very faithfulness to the 'Dictionary,' to some inevitable and radical defects. His material is limited from the first by the caprice or by the knowledge of one set of biographers. Graver still as a defect in most of his general conclusions is the absence of "control" information with regard to normal persons for comparison with his class of "genius," and this defect becomes more glaring when it is considered that the bulk of his statistics is derived from centuries earlier than the last, to which even our general impressions of the normal at the present time are probably inapplicable. In the simple case of stature, for instance, a table showing the recorded heights of a large group of famous men does not support even the most guarded conclusions of Mr. Ellis, in the absence of similar facts drawn from a group of normal persons in corresponding periods of history, though this is not to say that Mr. Ellis fails to provide here a very pleasant piece of gossip. The same consideration applies to many of his most readable chapters, to his compilations of the durations of life, the ages of marriage, the diseases, and other characteristics of the genius. A fallacy closely allied to this is one also arising from the disregard of controlling evidence from other sources than the 'Dictionary.' The analysis, for instance, of the varieties of social class from which the select thousand have sprung becomes in large part meaningless, where it is not actually misleading, on account of the shifting relations which succeeding centuries have witnessed in each class, in the scales both of social position and of numerical strength. These

changes remain unnoticed by the author, though they are partially recorded in history and are to some degree measurable. It may be admitted at once, however, that adequate information from earlier times, especially of normal groups, is virtually unobtainable for purposes of "control"; that, in short, Mr. Ellis's task was one impossible to achieve. It is a task which may perhaps be compassed in the future, as more perfect statistical records accumulate; but until that time has come we must probably be content to remain very nearly "where Mr. Galton left off."

Mr. Ellis offers in his earlier chapters a very interesting study of the geographical distribution of genius among the districts of Great Britain. He attempts in this to show the relative contributions made by each district or county to his group of eminent men, and more boldly to assign to certain districts the production of generalized types of genius. Here, again, he is hampered greatly by lack of information. In the first instance the actual birthplace of a genius may give no clue to the country of his real origin, but may be determined simply by some accident in the movement or occupation of his parents; and only in very rare cases have we a record of the origins of his parents and grandparents. Mr. Ellis has "often been well content merely to find out where the father came from," but this method seems to us to offer little advantage over that of taking the birthplace of the child, and to be open to some added objections. In the second place we have very little knowledge of the distribution of population in earlier centuries. To obtain his order of merit for the English counties in the production of genius, Mr. Ellis divides the absolute contribution of each by the number of square miles. This, even if it is otherwise impossible to obtain a standard of comparison, is manifestly unfair to counties which have always, from their conformation, been thinly populated. Yorkshire, with its barren moors, and Lincolnshire, with its fens, have together supplied more than any other two counties to the list of genius, but when the factor of mileage is introduced they appear very near the bottom. We are inclined to regret that Mr. Ellis has not carried his inquiry in a direction that might be expected to yield more interesting results, by an examination of the influence, if any, which educational foundations have had upon the geographical distribution of original genius. We do not suggest that the selected men of genius owe their eminence to the monasteries, to such foundations as those of Edward VI. or of Wolsey, or to the universities; but it might be shown that centres like these had played a large part in earlier days not so much in the production as in the detection and the early patronage of genius. In a population so mingled and shifting as our own it is more natural to consider genius as arising fortuitously and sporadically, and to look with suspicion upon efforts made to explain its origin and its varieties by an appeal to our very hazy knowledge of the ethnology of the English counties.

A SYNTHESIS OF COSMIC AND ÆSTHETIC RHYTHMS.

PERMIT me to call attention to some significant coincidences in the fundamental numerics and progressions (1) of the regular polyhedra

and stable vortices; (2) of the elements, planets, satellites, and of organic life; and (3) of the arts of music, architecture, poetry, &c. By means of these I formed, some time ago, a conjecture as to the structure of the supposed elemental atom which, from an entirely different point of view, appears since to be corroborated by Prof. J. J. Thomson (*Philosophical Magazine* for March); hence the warrant for this letter.

(a) *The regular polyhedra*.—Of these there are but five possible: it is a law of order to which but little attention has been directed in modern times, and I would suggest that, along with the law of vortices, it influences both our mental intuitions and the entire cosmic architecture. These five are the tetrahedron, cube, octahedron, dodecahedron, and icosahedron. Their numerics are: faces 4, 6, 8, 12, 20; points 4, 8, 6, 20, 12; squares of edges compared with squares of radii of circumscribed spheres $\frac{3}{4}$, 2, $\frac{3}{2}$, $2(1 - \frac{\sqrt{5}}{3})$, $2(1 - \frac{\sqrt{5}}{5})$; facial angles 3, 4, 3, 5, 3. Collectively the facial angles provide the foundation of all their numerics (i.e., 3, 4, and 5). Free magnetic needles (Mayer's experiment) are stable at the points of the polyhedral angles.

(b) *Vortices*.—Writing of negatively electrified corpuscles in a sphere of uniform positive electrification, Prof. J. J. Thomson shows that 3, 4, or 5 will be in stable equilibrium when in steady motion. No higher numbers are stable unless inner rings are added. Three corpuscles at a distance from the centre of the sphere will "move, like a rigid body at the corners of an equilateral triangle"—i.e., the faces of three of the regular polyhedra. Four corpuscles at high velocity are similarly "stable in one plane at the corner of a square"—the face of another regular polyhedron. Five corpuscles move rigidly in one plane, presumably at the corners of a pentagon, the face of a fifth polyhedron. The regular polyhedra will best build without gaps or conflicting angles, and in the adaptability of the vortical law to the law of external regularity we have an instance of inward evolution towards the ends of environment which may throw light upon biological evolution. At lower velocity Prof. Thomson shows that four corpuscles "tend to place themselves at the corners of a tetrahedron"—larger numbers, I suppose, by the same law at the corners of other regular polyhedra. This points to an atomic system, built up externally of 4, 6, 8, 12, or 20 sub-systems revolving *en bloc* spherically at lower speed, and therefore approximately at the polyhedral faces, the sub-systems revolving at higher speed, and therefore approximately in one plane. The lower velocities tend to instability, but the initial speed being perhaps 100,000 miles a second, the life of the complex atom may still be counted in millions of years. And even when the more complex atom is disintegrated, its sub-spheres, passing from plane to spherical order, will remain; the capacity of subdivision on a like law being perhaps infinite. Hence, probably, in the disintegration of radium both the velocity and size of the β and α rays—the one the fast revolving fraction of a sub-sphere, the other the slower revolving fraction of a sphere, to wit, the sub-sphere itself. By means of three rings 24 corpuscles would be stable; a fourth ring of 16, a fifth of 20, and a sixth of 24 can be added; or, being added, they can be stripped off successively.

(c) *The Elements*.—Now it is precisely these progressions of 16, 20, and 24 which Mendeléef's Atomic Table exhibits. The first two are familiar to all students; they are, as we should expect, in the first three series—the lighter elements, on which life mainly depends, as Li (7), Na (23), K (39); Si (28), Ti (48); P (31), V (51). The progressions of 24 have not, I think, been observed. They will be found in the oblique lines, as from K (39) plus 7×24 to

Pb (207), Ca (40) plus 7×24 to Bi (208), which may be extended to 8×24 by placing Th (232) in the sixth column, and Ti (48) plus 8×24 to U (240), placing the last in the eighth column. Prof. Thomson shows how, by default of one unit inside ($16 + 20 + 24 - 1$), the outer shell will just preserve its integrity, but bear no additional unit. This he compares with a non-valent element. 67 also will bear no added unit; but between these two numbers there lie seven, nine in all, and all with a like outer ring ascending to 4 valency in 63, and descending on either side to 1 valency, just as in the seven valent atomic group. In oblique columns, from series 3 to 11, a progression of twice 24 units corresponds to a change in valency of one unit, which may suggest that there are sub-spheres of that number of corpuscles. Beside the three progressions in line of valency we have only two others, these not in regular line: arithmetical progressions of Li (7) to Cd (112) and C (12) to Ir (192), each a multiple of 16. Numerics of $7 + 12$ belong to a different formation of vortices, whereof the third ring is 12 instead of 24. In the conflict of the two orders may we not have the explanation of fluorescence? Both appear to be capable of assimilation with the polyhedral regularity.

(d) *Hydrogen spectrum*.—Atomic weights have lately been proved to be an expression also of the rhythms of internal motion as evidenced in the spectrum. It appears that we have in the hydrogen atom, the lightest element, an epitome of the progressions of the whole gamut of the elements, and, as we shall afterwards see, perhaps also of the entire cosmic system. In tenths the following formula gives all the lines of the spectrum:—

$$(7 + 12) (8 \times 24) \times \frac{m^2}{m^2 - 9^2}$$

m being any number from 3 to 11. Compare the progressions of 7 and 12, the corresponding corpuscular series, and the progression of 8×24 , in series 3 to 11—nine lines, as shown above.

(e) *Astronomy*.—A progression of 16, 20, and 24 is obtained in the distances of the planets, thus: Me. $16 + V$ 12 + E 12 + Ma. 20 + Ast. $24 \times 2 + J$ 24 $\times 4 + S$ 24 $\times 8 + U$ 24 $\times 16 + N$ (i) 24 $\times 18$; and of Jupiter's satellites approximately: 12 + 16 + 16 + 24 + 24 $\times 2$. Jupiter in its distance from Saturn shows the only important irregularity, being nearer to 21×8 . In Saturn's rings note the plane order accompanied by axial rotation much swifter than in the minor planets. The whole solar system may have been as the shell of a vaster polyhedral sphere. The four minor and four major planets (cf. Saturn's eight and Jupiter's four main satellites) may also be annexes, as of corpuscles and groups of corpuscles—instances of nebular tetra-valency—annexes left behind in the solar shrinkage from plane to spherical nebular shape; for the electric vortices are stable with or without their intruders. This would solve a difficult problem in astronomy.

(f) *Organic life*.—Plant organs are, with few exceptions, in threes, fours, or fives, or a binary progression. Cell sections vary from circular to hexagonal: sections of icosahedra are hexagonal. Spirals (cf. nebular spirals) appear to be derived from like progressions. Mr. Jay Hambidge, in a paper read before the Hellenic Society, gave instances of curves, circles, and ratios in plants, butterflies, &c., obtained from radii of these polyhedral proportions: the formula never failed him, he said. In the mammalian organs we have other examples. Organic rhythmic functions, attributed once to lunar influence, are possibly dependent on a like rhythm in satellite and protoplasm.

ÆSTHETICS.

(g) *Architecture*.—The same formula Mr. Jay Hambidge found to hold good with the rhythms of Greek and Gothic architecture, and he instances the Parthenon. Vitruvius showed that the ratios of 3, 4, and 5 satisfied all pro-

portions of the peripteral temples (Temples of Vesta, &c.). This is the simplest instance.

(b) *Colour*.—A triad is contained in the three primary colours, with the corresponding optic nerves.

(c) *Poetry*.—The heptameter is the longest integral metre known to ancient and modern verse, e.g., Horace, Bk. I. Ode iv., and Chapman's *Iliad*. It is barely possible. The hexameter (alexandrine metre in iambs) breaks in two with its heavy cæsura. The pentameter, however—the metre of English blank verse—is coherent, and admits of light cæsura equally at several points; coherent also are the trimeter and tetrameter. Similar laws govern musical phrasing. Apart from mental limitation, rhythms without pause might extend to any length. The same law holds good of accent in prose; the mind cannot dispense with rhythm either in prose or verse, and its influence is evident in the former, though, as stated already in the *Athenæum*, its laws have not been examined.

(κ) *Music*.—It is here that the analogy is most completely seen. This art depends on molecular vibrations, as spectra of the elements on vibrations of electrons. It is a universal speech, because its rhythms are, literally as well as figuratively, in the blood and brain. The vibrations of the Major Triad, which are the foundation and resting-place of all Melody, Counterpoint, and Harmony, are precisely in the ratios of the Atomic progressions—16, 20, and 24. From 16 to 24 all simple modulations are produced; 16 is the L.C.M. of the Harmonic scale up to the fifth recurrent octave (cf. the limit of stability to 5 vortex rings); 24 is the L.C.M. of the Diatonic scale. Seven notes exhaust the major scale as seven groups exhaust the valent elements; here, perhaps, the analogy is fanciful; that of the resting-point is complete. The seventh is the mediant of the key of the dominant, and in this passage from key to key (compare the dissolving of the vortices from 24 to 20, and from 20 to 16, and also the functions of carbon and oxygen) we have figured to our emotions all the changes of rest and unrest, life and death.

Mathematical laws govern mind and matter, but they are not mind and matter. Nature and art abhor the hard line and exact symmetry as they abhor a vacuum, and for the same reason; for no space is without its content, no force operates unchecked. The life that begets the rhythmic lines of petals and sea shells is kept against odds, the purest musical triad contains in the reflex of its own vibrations the elements of discord.

In this synthesis of æsthetics and natural law we see that intuition is accurately prophetic. Bach and Beethoven flew straight to their goal on the wings of genius unhelped by the mathematics of Helmholtz. And their music was that of mathematics; literally, too, the music of the spheres, including the sphere of the atom. It has been said that music utters things that our slow reason dreams not of, and the intuition may be as true as that by which Bach foretold Helmholtz.

However it may be challenged in details, this surely is a synthesis calculated to stimulate inquiry and fresh thought.

NEWMAN HOWARD.

SOCIETIES.

GEOLOGICAL.—April 13.—Dr. J. E. Marr, President, in the chair.—Prof. H. Fairfield Osborn, of New York, was elected a Foreign Member; and Dr. Erich Dagobert von Drygalski, of the University of Berlin, and Dr. H. S. Washington, of Locust, New Jersey, were elected Foreign Correspondents.—The following communications were read: 'The Discovery of Human Remains under the Stalagmite Floor of Gough's Cavern, near Cheddar,' by Mr. H. N. Davies; and 'History of Volcanic Action in the Phlegrean Fields,' by Prof. Giuseppe de Lorenzo, of the University of Naples.

SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES.—*St. George's Day.—Annual Meeting.*—Viscount Dillon, President, in the chair.—Messrs. E. J. Barron and A. Hartshorne were appointed scrutators of the ballot.—The President delivered his annual address, containing the usual notices of deceased Fellows, and passing under review the chief incidents connected with the Society during the past year. He also referred briefly to the principal events during the seven years of his term of office, now come to a close, and concluded by thanking the Fellows of the Society for their support throughout that period.—The following resolution was thereupon proposed by Mr. Hovenden, seconded by Dr. Ely, and carried unanimously: "That the best thanks of the meeting be given to the President for his address, and that he be requested to allow it to be printed." The following resolution was also proposed by Mr. Brabrook, seconded by Sir John Evans, and carried by acclamation: "The Society desires, at the same time, to express its sincere regret that, under the provisions of the Statutes, it will lose the services of Lord Dillon as President, and to record its grateful recognition of the qualities which he has exhibited in that office—qualities which will live in the recollection of the Society and deepen the regret felt at his retirement."—The President replied in suitable terms.—The following were declared duly elected President, Council, and officers for the ensuing year: *President*, Lord Avebury; *Treasurer*, Mr. P. Norman; *Director*, Mr. F. G. Hilton Price; *Secretary*, Mr. C. H. Read; *other Members of Council*, Mr. W. Paley Baildon, Sir C. Purdon Clarke, Mr. O. M. Dalton, Mr. Cyril Davenport, the Rev. E. S. Dewick, Mr. L. L. Duncan, Sir John Evans, Mr. M. S. Giuseppe, Mr. W. Gowland, Mr. F. Haverfield, Mr. R. R. Holmes, Sir Henry Howorth, Mr. J. Seymour Lucas, Mr. J. T. Micklethwaite, Mr. W. Page, Sir E. M. Thompson, and Mr. J. G. Waller.

BRITISH ARCHÆOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.—April 20.—Mr. R. E. Leader, President, in the chair.—Mr. A. R. Goddard exhibited a curious Matabele knife, also an early seventeenth-century carving-knife, which Mr. Parkin, of Sheffield, said corresponded in every respect to similar articles manufactured at Sheffield at the present day.—Mr. Patrick, Hon. Secretary, exhibited a fine example of calligraphy in the shape of a copybook "by John Ayres, master of ye writing-school near St. Pauls free School in London, sold by ye Author at ye hand and Pen in Paul's Church yard," dated August, 1683. Spare leaves at the end of the book had been filled at a later date with curious old woodcuts of animals, thought to be from early blocks by Bewick.—The Rev. H. J. D. Astley read a letter from a foreign correspondent with reference to the discoveries at Chislehurst, in which he showed, from his own experience in similar explorations, that the opposite theories of Mr. Nichols and Mr. Forster with regard to the antiquity of the caves may both be correct.—A paper was read by Mr. Leader on 'Sheffield Cutlery and the Poll Tax of 1379.' It appears that the earliest known mention of Sheffield in connexion with knives is in a schedule of goods issued from the King's Wardrobe at the Tower, about the fourteenth year of King Edward III. (1340), in which "vili cutellus de Hiberto, xii paryos cutellus de Assheborne," and "i cutellum de Shefeld," are referred to. With Chaucer's reference in the 'Reeve's Tale' to the "Shefeld thwytel," this is the only testimony to the existence of the cutlery manufacture, or of any other manufacture, at Sheffield so early as the fourteenth century. As the 'Canterbury Tales' are usually assigned to the latter part of Chaucer's life—i.e., from 1373 to 1400—and were probably put together as a whole rather later than 1386, the date is near enough to say that they were contemporary with the Poll Tax. From the name of Sheffield being associated by Chaucer with knives we might have expected to find proof of the existence of the industry in the very carefully prepared schedules for taxing the inhabitants. Those who levied the tax did their work very thoroughly, and were careful to record the status of any individual whose position justified the levying of a higher tax than the minimum of 4d., and thus we find the ordinary tradesmen (smiths, cobblers, tailors, coopers, butchers, and the like) are mulcted in 6d.; farmers, 12d.; and drapers, innkeepers, tanners, merchants (of whom there were none in Sheffield), at this or even at higher rates. It is curious, therefore, to find that in the Sheffield return not a single cutler is thus distinguished. The only trace of the occupation in this town is the entry, "Johannes Coteler, filius." If it is assumed that he was a cutler, the presence of one artisan of the humblest rank cannot be taken to be an adequate explanation how Sheffield could have acquired fame for the production of knives.—Mr. Goddard, Mr. Gould, Mr. Rayson, Mr. Williams, the Rev. H. J. D. Astley, Mr.

Kershaw, Dr. Birch, and others joined in the discussion.—A second paper was read by Mr. Patrick in the absence of the author, Mr. A. Denton Cheney. This was descriptive of "Shepway Cross" and the "Court of Shepway." In the days of the old Roman occupation, Shepway stood upon the great highway running from London, through Rochester and Canterbury, to the Portus Lemannus, the principal port in Southern Britain. The peculiar point of interest attaching to Shepway Cross is not that it stood upon the busy highway of Roman commerce, but in the fact of its intimate and important connexion with that most remarkable organization the "Confederation of the Cinque Ports," of which the "Court of Shepway" was at once its "Parliament and its Court of Justice." There has been some difference of opinion as to the origin of the name Shepway, some writers having derived it from the vast numbers of sheep which for ages have fed upon the Romney marshes; but there is little doubt that the name really means the way to the ships of the Roman port. The monks of Christ Church, Canterbury, were large landowners in this district, and to them is no doubt due the erection of the wayside cross, or crucifix, which once stood at the cross roads where the way from Hythe is crossed by the old Stone Street. The paper dealt at considerable length with the history of the Cinque Ports and particularly with that unique institution the "Court of Shepway."

ROYAL NUMISMATIC.—April 21.—Sir John Evans, President, in the chair.—The President exhibited a gold medallion (weighing 308 grains) of the Roman Emperor Constantius II., struck at Antioch, and having on the obverse the bust of the emperor, and on the reverse a figure of Constantinople seated, with the surrounding legend GLORIA ROMANORVM. This medallion, which is in a very fine state of preservation, was recently found in Egypt.—Mr. T. Bliss exhibited dies for forging a large gold Hungarian coin, which were made by the well-known forger Becker during his residence at Buda-Pesth. Similar dies for the same purpose had been shown by Mr. Bliss at the previous meeting.—Mr. P. Carlyon-Britton showed two bronze coins of the British chief Cunobeline, one having on the reverse a butting bull, the other a seated female figure grasping a hammer in her right hand, and holding in the other a vessel or cuirass; but Mr. Carlyon-Britton considered it to be an anvil, and therefore interpreted the figure to be one of the "Monetae." This type was, however, not known on Roman coins till some two centuries later. Both coins came from the Montagu collection.—Mr. F. A. Walters read a paper on the coinage of Richard II., in which he traced a more complete sequence of types and issues than had yet been attempted, and in doing so brought to notice a considerable number of previously unpublished varieties of coins of that reign, both in gold and silver. It was suggested that there was great probability that the gold coins of a type which Mr. Walters believes to be the latest, and which conspicuously omits the French title to the king's name, were struck after his second marriage with Isabella of Valois, when he formally renounced any additional claim, through her or her descendants, to the crown of France. Attention was also drawn to the evidence of the Mint accounts as to the smallness of the issues during the whole of the reign, and to the consequent rarity of the coins of Richard II., though he reigned for twenty-two years.

LINNEAN.—April 21.—Prof. S. H. Vines, President, in the chair.—Dr. G. H. Fowler, Mr. W. P. J. Le Brocq, and Mr. C. E. Pearson were admitted Fellows.—Mr. P. F. Fyson and Mr. R. S. Hole were elected Fellows.—The President then read a letter from H.M. Office of Works stating that the Lords Commissioners of H.M. Treasury had authorized the Board to assign to the Society the rooms shortly to be vacated by the Post Office, on condition that the Society bears the cost of alteration necessary to adapt them to its use.—Mr. C. B. Clarke and the Rev. R. Ashington Bullen on behalf of the Council, and Mr. Herbert Druce and Mr. E. G. Baker on behalf of the Fellows, were elected Auditors for the Treasurer's accounts.—Mr. Clement Reid exhibited drawings by Mrs. Reid of fruits and seeds of British preglacial, interglacial, and Roman plants; second series—*Calyciflora*. The most interesting addition to the interglacial flora is the South-European *Coltonaster pyracantha*, which occurs abundantly on the Sussex coast in deposits which yield also *Acer monspessulanum*, *Najas minor*, and *N. graminea*. The preglacial *Calyciflora* include *Trapa natans*, but the rest of the species yet determined are still living in Britain; many, however, need further examination. The plants from Roman Silchester include the vine, bullace, damson, and coriander.—Mr. R. Morton Middleton exhibited a holograph letter from Linnaeus to Haller, dated

Upsala, May 12th, 1747, conveying the intelligence of Haller being elected a Foreign Member of the Royal Academy of Sciences, Stockholm.—Dr. Stapf, on behalf of Mr. W. B. Hemsley, exhibited some specimens of *Primula vulgaris*, Huds., which displayed the phenomenon of phyllody of the calyx in an unusual degree.

ZOOLOGICAL.—April 19.—Dr. H. Woodward, V.P., in the chair.—The Secretary read a report on the additions to the menagerie during March.—Mr. Oldfield Thomas exhibited some skulls of the North Australian rock wallaby (*Peradonca concinna*), illustrating a continuously renewed molar series, and a skin and skull of a new species of hartebeest, shot by Mr. F. J. Jackson in Uganda.—Dr. C. I. Forsyth Major exhibited and made remarks upon some remains of *Anthracotherium magnum*, Cuv., obtained by Mr. Oldfield Thomas from a lignite deposit in Majorca.—Mr. F. E. Beddard exhibited and made remarks upon a series of avian brains of which the arterial system had been injected.—Mr. Thomas read a paper, by himself and Mr. Harold Schwann, on the mammals obtained by the late Mr. W. G. Doggett on the Anglo-German Boundary Commission. Twenty-one species were enumerated, of which three were described as new.—Mr. Beddard read the second of a series of papers entitled 'Contributions to the Anatomy of the Lacertilia,' based on observations he had made in the Society's Prosectorium. The present part dealt with some points in the structure of the teguexin (*Tupinambis*).—Mr. G. A. Boulenger gave an account of the Triassic reptile *Tetrapodon elginensis*, based on new material recently procured at Looisemouth by Mr. W. Taylor.—A communication from Mr. Herbert Druce contained descriptions of twenty-three new species of butterflies belonging to the family Erycinidae, from Tropical South America.—Dr. A. Smith Woodward communicated a paper by Dr. Robert Broom on the theriodont mandible and its mode of articulation with the skull.

INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS.—April 26.—Annual Meeting.—Sir W. H. White, President, in the chair.—The result of the ballot for the election of Council for the sessional year 1904-5 was declared as follows: President, Sir Guilford Molesworth; Vice-Presidents, Mr. F. W. Webb, Sir Alexander Binnie, Dr. A. B. W. Kennedy, Mr. W. R. Galbraith; other Members of Council, Mr. C. N. Bell, Mr. C. A. Brereton, Mr. R. Elliott-Cooper, Col. R. E. B. Crompton, Mr. W. J. Cudworth, Dr. G. F. Deacon, Dr. F. Elgar, Mr. R. A. Hadfield, Mr. G. H. Hill, Mr. C. W. Hodson, Mr. J. C. Inglis, Mr. G. R. Jebb, Mr. T. C. Keefer, Mr. A. G. Lyster, Mr. J. A. McDonald, Mr. W. Matthews, Sir C. Metcalfe, the Hon. C. A. Parsons, Mr. A. Ross, Mr. W. Shefford, Mr. A. Siemens, Mr. J. Strain, Sir J. I. Thornycroft, Prof. W. C. Unwin, Sir Leader Williams, and Mr. A. F. Yarrow.

HISTORICAL.—April 21.—Dr. G. W. Prothero, President, in the chair.—The following were elected Fellows: P. A. G. Brunk and J. A. C. Deas.—The following libraries were admitted as Subscribing Libraries: Royal Institution, Chelsea Public Library, and the Victoria Legislative Library, British Columbia.—A paper was read by Miss Rose Graham on 'The Finance of a Religious House (Malton Priory) in the Thirteenth Century (1244-58).—A short discussion followed, in which the President, Mr. Hubert Hall, and Mr. H. E. Malden took part.—Mr. Hall also communicated Part II. of 'Peter's Pence in England,' prepared by the Rev. O. Jensen.

BRITISH NUMISMATIC.—April 13.—Mr. Carlyon-Britton, President, in the chair.—Four Members were elected, ten proposed, and eighty-five formally admitted.—Earl Roberts was elected as Honorary Member.—Exhibitions: by Mr. Bernard Roth, three specimens of the daalder of Philip II. of Spain, bearing the title *HISP. ANG. Z. REX*, &c.: (1) struck at Bruges with m.m. lys in 1557; (2) at Antwerp, m.m. hand, 1558; (3) at Maestricht, m.m. star of five points; also a contemporary forgery similar to the last, but dated 1563, which is remarkable in view of the death of Queen Mary of England, Philip's consort, in 1558, when his claim to the title 'Rex Ang.' should have been extinguished.—by Mr. H. M. Reynolds, silver pennies of William I. and II., viz., a "mule" of Hawkins types 233 and 234, struck at Lincoln; a specimen of type 245 of the Winchester mint, which had turned in the dies whilst being struck; and one of type 247, disclosing a new type and moneyer, DVRCIT, of the Bristol mint.—by Mr. Talbot Ryder, a pattern coin, in copper, of Charles I., with obv. name and titles around the royal arms; rev. EXURGAT legend, a round large portcullis crowned; possibly intended, like its prototype of Elizabeth's reign, for circulation in the East Indies.—by Mr. Lionel Fletcher, a tray of Northumberland and Durham Boundary

tokens,—by Mr. J. B. Caldecott, a Spanish dollar of 1778 countermarked with E and D in monogram, for circulation in Essequibo and Demerara; also a tray of colonial coins of the present reign, to demonstrate the deterioration of the modern die-sinker's art,—and by Mr. L. A. Lawrence, a continuation of his series illustrating the methods of forgery.—Mr. Talbot Ready contributed an interesting historical paper upon a unique silver penny of Ethelred, Archbishop of Canterbury 870-89, and exhibited the coin.—The President, for comparison, exhibited three specimens of the contemporary regal coinage of Alfred of very similar design. Special attention was called to the ornamental cross on the reverse of the archbishop's coin and its bearing upon the ecclesiastical art of the time.—Mr. S. H. Hamer read the first portion of an exhaustive paper on 'Private Tokens: Issuers and Die-sinkers, 1795-1843,' which he illustrated by numerous specimens of the series. The author explained the origin and gradual extension of the custom of issuing private tokens, and furnished many notes on their issuers.

April 14.—At a special meeting certain alterations to the rules were passed: (1) to postpone the entrance fee, (2) to provide for the membership of corporate bodies. These were rendered necessary by the very numerous applications for membership still being received from all quarters of the Empire.

MEETINGS NEXT WEEK.

- Mon. Society of Arts, 4j.—The Majolica and Glazed Earthenware of Tuscany, Lecture II., Prof. R. Langton Douglas. (Cantor Lectures.)
— Royal Institution, 5.—Annual Meeting.
— Society of Engineers, 7j.—A Jubilee Retrospect, Mr. P. F. Nursey; 'British and American Coal-cutting Machines,' Mr. A. E. Ackermann.
— Aristotelian, 8.—Kant's Idealism, Mr. G. E. Moore.
Tues. Society of Arts, 4j.—Canada and Great Britain, Mr. W. L. Griffith.
— Royal Institution, 5.—Meteorites, Lecture I., Mr. L. Fletcher.
— Zoological, 8j.—The Osteology and Systematic Position of the Rare Malagasy Bat *Myotis auriv.*, Mr. Oldfield Thomas; 'Contributions to the Anatomy of the Lacertilia. III. On some Points in the Vascular System of Chameleon and other Lizards,' Mr. F. E. Beddard; 'Notes on the Gill-rakers of Polyodon,' Mr. A. D. Imms.
Wed. British Archaeological Association, 4j.—Annual Meeting.
— Entomological, 8.—Statistics of the World's Iron and Steel Industries, Mr. W. Pollard Digby.
Thurs. Royal, 4.—Election of Fellows.
— Royal Institution, 5.—Great Britain and Europe, 1703-93, Lecture I., Mr. A. Hasall.
— Chemical, 8.—The slow Combustion of Ethane, Messrs. W. A. Bone and W. E. Stockings; 'Note on the Hydrolysis of starch by Diastase,' Mr. J. S. Ford; 'The Resin Acids of the Conifers: Part I. The Constitution of Abietic Acid,' Messrs. T. H. Easterfield and G. Bagley; and four other Papers.
— Linnean, 8.—British Freshwater Rhizopoda, Mr. J. Cash; 'Coloration in Animals and Birds,' Mr. J. L. Bonhote; 'The Cranial Osteology of the Fishes of the Families Mormyridae, Xiphozetidae and Hydrocetidae,' Dr. W. R. B. Woodward.
— Society of Antiquaries, 8j.—The Hauberk of Chain Mail and its Conventional Representations, Mr. J. G. Waller.
Fri. Geologists' Association, 8.—The Geology of Buxton, Mr. H. Arnold Buxton.
— Philological, 8.—Annual Meeting; 'Notes on English Etymology,' Prof. Skeat.
— Royal Institution, 9.—'Anthropoid Apes,' Dr. P. Chalmers Mitchell.
Sat. Royal Institution, 3.—'Sonata Style and the Sonata Forms,' Mr. D. F. Tovey.

Science Gossip.

NEXT Monday being the Jubilee Meeting of the Society of Engineers, the usual paper will be preceded by the reading of 'A Jubilee Retrospect,' a brief history of the Society since its inception to the present time, by Mr. Perry F. Nursey, past-president and secretary.

THE Council of the Institution of Civil Engineers have made the following awards for papers during the past session: a Telford Gold Medal to Major Sir Robert Hanbury Brown, a George Stephenson Gold Medal to Mr. G. H. Stephens, and a Watt Gold Medal to Mr. Alphonse Steiger; Telford Premiums to Mr. E. W. De Russett, Mr. Hugh Robert Mill, Mr. Alexander Millar, and Mr. T. E. Stanton; a Manby Premium to Prof. J. Campbell Brown; and a Crompton Prize to Mr. L. H. Savile. The presentation of these awards, together with those for papers which have not been subject to discussion and will be announced later, will take place at the inaugural meeting of next session.

It has long been felt that a closer union among scientific men would lead to greater progress in scientific research, and as the International Mathematical Congress, which assembles August 8-13, will bring together a very large number of prominent scientific men at Heidelberg, those in authority have decided to make use of the opportunity for forming an International Union to promote scientific research. All branches of science and literature are to be

represented. It is intended, among other things, to establish an international bureau, to publish a monthly journal, to hold regular meetings, and to give assistance in scientific research.

SEVERAL large spots on the sun have recently been visible to the naked eye.

THE planet Mercury will be at inferior conjunction with the sun on the 13th prox., and become visible in the morning towards the end of the month. Venus will be in conjunction with Mercury on the 22nd in the constellation Aries, and afterwards move into Taurus. Mars will be in conjunction with the sun on the 30th. Jupiter is visible in the morning, not far from the star ϵ Piccium. Saturn is in the constellation Aquarius, and by the end of next month will rise soon after midnight.

In consequence of the continued indisposition of Prof. Rees, Prof. Jacoby has been nominated Acting Director of the Columbia University Observatory, New York, until July, 1905; and Dr. C. Lane Poor, formerly at the Johns Hopkins University, has been appointed a Professor of Astronomy, and will be associated with Prof. Jacoby at Columbia.

A NEW variable star, 14, 1904, Cygni, has been detected by Madame Ceraski in the course of her examination of the photographic plates taken at the Moscow Observatory. Actual observations, subsequently obtained by M. Blajko on March 23rd, 24th, and 25th, show that the magnitude changes between 10.7 and 11.6. The period is short, only about 3^h 2' in length, the curve of light changes recalling those of the variables in some stellar clusters studied by Prof. Bailey.

DR. J. PALISA, who between 1874 and 1892 discovered no fewer than eighty-three small planets—twenty-eight at Pola and the rest at the Imperial Observatory, Vienna (to which he removed in 1881)—has lately been obtaining a large number of visual observations of those recently discovered by photography at Heidelberg, including one which was detected there on the 11th inst., as mentioned below.

THREE new small planets are announced by Prof. Max Wolf, discovered at the Königstuhl Observatory, Heidelberg, on the 11th, 12th, and 16th inst. respectively.

THE comet (α , 1904) discovered by Mr. Brooks on the 16th inst. continues to move slowly in a north-westerly direction. No satisfactory orbit of it has yet been obtained. It is not likely to increase in brightness.

ALTHOUGH the comet discovered by Prof. Max Wolf on the 17th of September, 1884, which was found to have a period of about six and three-quarter years, and was duly observed at the returns in 1891 and 1898, will not be in perihelion again (under unfavourable circumstances for visibility) until the month of May next year, Prof. Berberich thinks that it may possibly be seen when near its forthcoming opposition to the sun, which will be due next June. He has, therefore, published (in *Ast. Nach.*, No. 3940) an ephemeris for it, by which it appears that the comet during May, June, and July will be in the northern part of Ophiuchus, and when in opposition to the sun on June 16th, nearly between the stars α and β in that constellation. It will be nearest the earth on July 10th; distance, about two hundred and five millions of miles.

LITTLE change has been made in the data and arrangement of the *Berliner Astronomisches Jahrbuch*, the volume of which for 1906 has been recently published, edited, as before, by Prof. Bauschinger. Orbits are given of no fewer than 513 small planets, and ephemerides of most of those which come into opposition during the present year.

FINE ARTS

EXHIBITION OF FRENCH PRIMITIVES IN THE
PAVILLON DE MARSAN.

M. BOUCHOT and all concerned in the organization of this exhibition deserve the warmest congratulations. The attempt to make a notable collection of pictures by French artists of the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries was considered by many chimerical, and most connoisseurs who have not seen the exhibition still declare that it is an impossibility, and that in any case it can have nothing to do with French art. The answer is that the thing has been done; that three small galleries are filled with paintings, many of them of extreme interest, and a few of surpassing beauty; and that it would be absurd to call it by any other title than that which it bears.

The installation in the small galleries of the Pavillon de Marsan is admirable. In the entrance stand two magnificent statues of Charles V. and his wife from the church of the Célestins; the staircase is hung with admirable pieces of tapestry, among which we note one of exceptional beauty and rare design. The whole field is covered with a network of tiny half-naturalistic flowers, among which play the daintiest nude babies, each with a coral necklace and a different toy, while peacocks and white rabbits vary the uniformity of the dark, rich-coloured background. Other pieces of tapestry are of interest as being of the same type, perhaps even by the same artist, as the Hardwick Hall tapestries, and these help to prove that we were right, when the first of the series was exhibited, in ascribing the design to a Burgundian artist of the early fifteenth century.

At the top of two flights of stairs we come upon the Central Hall, one end of which is filled by Froment's great triptych of 'Moses and the Burning Bush,' with King René and Jeanne de Laval in the wings, an imposing and decorative piece, which looks well at a distance, but on a closer inspection shows the weak and derivative nature of this curious painter. The other end of the gallery is occupied by the so-called Memling from the Palais de Justice, the removal of which has caused so much vehement discussion in Paris. No one has ever before been able to see the picture properly. Here it becomes evident that it is by an artist thoroughly imbued with Flemish ideas, conversant with the pictures of Van der Weyden and of Memling, who was settled in Paris in Charles VIII's reign. It is an interesting and fairly good picture, but by no means a masterpiece. The side walls are covered with some feebly designed, but admirably executed tapestries of the sixteenth century, lent by the Galleria degli Arazzi at Florence.

The first of the side rooms is dedicated to the art of the fourteenth century. In this section the Pavement de Narbonne, a great altar frontal painted on silk in Indian ink by Jean d'Orléans, and Jean Malouel's great picture from the Louvre, form the centres of attraction. The next room contains three splendid works of the Maître de Flémalle, whom M. Bouchot has endeavoured to connect with the Franco-Flemish School of Artois, of which the Limbourgs were the great masters. This, it is needless to say, is a theory which will provoke much discussion, but, whether he be justified or not in his idea, it is one which he had every right to put to the test in this practical manner. In the same room is the great 'Annunciation' from the church of the Magdalen at Aix, a piece of the very highest order, to which we must return later on.

The next room is in effect the room of the only two great French painters of the fifteenth century whose work is sufficiently well preserved and sufficiently clearly isolated to enable us to regard them as we do the great contem-

porary masters of Flanders and Italy. These are, of course, Jean Fouquet and the Maître de Moulins, and both are represented, if not completely, at least better than ever before.

Finally, we come to a room devoted to the art of Provence, of which Enguerraud Charenton was the great light. If it were not that we possess only one work by this painter, he too would assuredly by now have had a world-wide reputation, so splendid, so full of the most surprising and apparently incompatible artistic qualities, is his great picture of the coronation of the Virgin which occupies the end wall of this gallery. Less delicate, refined, and accomplished, but inspired by an even greater sentiment for monumental and dramatic design, is the isolated work of another artist of the South, of whose name we know nothing, the stupendous 'Pietà' from the Hospice of Villeneuve les Avignon. It is one of the curiosities of the catalogue, on the whole an admirable work, that this magnificent production should be attributed to the school of Nicholas Froment. It is by an artist of infinitely greater originality and incomparably higher imaginative grasp than that quaint eclectic. In the same room hangs another picture of surprising beauty, the little 'Pietà' belonging to Baron d'Albenas, which we discussed when it first became well known at the Bruges Exhibition. At that time we doubted the suggestion, due to M. George Hutin, that it was of French origin, and a second inspection, under better conditions of lighting, only confirms us in the opinion that it is essentially an Italian work done under Flemish influences.

Going up yet another flight of stairs, we come to the galleries devoted to the art of the sixteenth century. Here the same level of interest is no longer maintained. The attempt to treat the sophisticated late Renaissance School of Fontainebleau at the same time and place as the true Primitives was probably a mistake, and it was not to be expected that the same sympathy and devotion, the same earnest zeal, could be displayed by M. Bouchot towards two such diametrically opposed tendencies in French art as those which dominated respectively the Courts of Charles V. and François I. If the display of sixteenth-century art was placed here as an object lesson, to prove the superiority of indigenous art before the Italian invasion, the result is highly successful; but M. Dimier's interesting book on 'French Painting of the Sixteenth Century' shows that this is not altogether a fair judgment. The most interesting as works of art of the exhibits of this group are the portraits which belong to the neighbourhood of the two Clouets. The King has lent the Hampton Court portrait of a man holding Petrarch's works, which approaches so nearly to Holbein that some critics regard it as a German picture. There is François Clouet's charming portrait of Elizabeth of Austria, from the Louvre; and Sir F. Cook lends his curious portrait of a lady in her bath, of which a somewhat modified replica exists at Chantilly.

This, in brief outline, is what the exhibition has to show. It will be remarked at once that several capital pieces are absent. The Museum at Chantilly has not seen its way to lend the 'Très Riches Heures du Duc de Berri,' with its incomparable miniatures by Pol de Limbourg, which form, as it were, the central point of departure for the whole naturalistic art of the fifteenth century. Nor has it lent the miniatures of Fouquet, which represent the greatest achievement of the mid-fifteenth century in France.

Dijon, though it has parted for the time being with its Maître de Flémalle, has not allowed the great Broederlam altarpiece to leave its galleries. Its presence would have been a great gain, because of the close relation it bears to the miniature work of the end of the fourteenth century. Finally, Lord Pembroke has not found it possible (and we can well understand his

motives to let his unique Richard II. diptych run the risks of a foreign voyage. Here again the loss is to be deplored, because, if this be indeed, as we hold, a French work, it marks the highest point of technical achievement, together with the most perfect taste in colour and decorative design, which the art of the fourteenth century attained. This picture is, by-the-by, alluded to in the catalogue as of a date which the age of the king alone makes it necessary to anticipate by sixteen years.

We must leave to a future article the discussion of the many interesting questions which this exhibition suggests. It will result, we think, in our forming wholly new ideas about the history of mediæval, and the commencement of modern, painting in Northern Europe. But we may say at once that the total impression produced is that there was a great deal of admirable painting in France throughout the fifteenth century rather than that there was a great continuous and self-subsistent French school of painting. Fouquet we have long known, and Fouquet alone would suffice to prove the first statement. His imaginative interpretation of form, his sense of a massive and plastic relief, and his consummate feeling for design place him almost on a level with his great Italian contemporaries, with Masaccio and Pisanello. But it is as a designer and draughtsman rather than as a master of essentially pictorial presentment that we admire him. Even he lacks to some extent the power of three-dimensional design. At least, in his pictures he never attempts any very complex rendering of three-dimensional space. The Maître de Moulins is, perhaps, the nearest to an exception to our rule. He is by no means so great an artist as Fouquet, but he comes out here as a painter of unsurpassed accomplishment. His peculiar loose and flowing brushwork, his brilliant enamelled impasto, which has almost the quality of some Oriental porcelain, the strength and purity of his local colours, and the force of his illumination mark him out from all his contemporaries as *par excellence* the great painter of the early French school.

In all the discussions which this exhibition will provoke as to what is and what is not French painting, it will be well to remember that France, as we know it, did not exist till long after the period with which we are concerned, that Burgundy was more attached to Flanders than to France, that Provence was even more than it is to-day another country, and that we must be careful not to impose modern conceptions of nationality on an age that was only dimly feeling its way towards them. What we have to do, then, is rather to attempt to isolate certain centres of creative energy, to recognize nodes and points of convergence and separation in the continuous web of the artistic tradition of North-Western Europe. So, and so only, may we be at last able to resolve some of the mysteries, and explain away some of the apparent miracles, in the history of European art. Towards such a complete understanding the present exhibition affords a great, indeed almost an un hoped-for opportunity, and its organizers deserve the gratitude of all lovers of mediæval art and history.

We must not omit to mention the important collection of miniatures on view at the Bibliothèque Nationale, which admirably complements the exhibition of pictures. To that, too, we must return later.

SALES.

MESSRS. CHRISTIE, MANSON & WOODS sold on the 23rd inst. the following pictures: J. van Goyen, A River Scene, 1682. A. Kauffman, Fortitude, Prudence, Temperance, and Justice (set of four), 1797. Lawrence, Lady Bury, 1411. Hoppner, Portrait of a Young Girl, seated under a tree, with a boy holding a bird's-nest, 1947.

B. W. Leader's picture A Woody Landscape brought 110*l.* on the 25th inst.

Fine-Art Gossip.

AMONG the exhibitions now open are pictures in water colour of Florence and the French Riviera, by Mr. W. A. Macdonald, at the Little Gallery, 40A, Victoria Street; water-colours of Japan and Ceylon, by Miss Ella Du Cane, at Messrs. Graves & Co.'s Gallery in Pall Mall; pictures by Mr. C. E. Butler, at the Holland Fine-Art Gallery; and Swiss water-colour drawings by Miss Alice E. Pringley, at 18, Holland Street, Kensington.

FROM May 7th to 20th Mr. Albert E. Bonner is exhibiting at the same place views of Japan, Egypt, Sicily, Palestine, Italy, and Greece; and Messrs. Dickinson, a show entitled 'Turner in Water-Colours,' by Jessie Hacon.

NEXT Saturday at Mr. Baillie's Gallery is the press view of pictures and sketches by Mr. Herbert Alexander and Miss C. Wake, jewellery and silverwork by Miss Ethel Virtue, Mr. E. G. Howe, and Mr. W. J. Byrne.

NEXT week, from Tuesday onwards, the Alpine Club have a show of Alpine photographs at 23, Savile Row, W.

SIR WALTER ARMSTRONG writes:—

"A paragraph has appeared in many journals in which a portrait by Sir Joshua, discovered by me at Elton Hall, Peterborough, in the possession of Lord Carysfort, is said to represent 'Bowles, a minor poet,' meaning, I suppose, the Rev. W. L. Bowles, Canon of Salisbury and Chaplain to George IV., whose sonnets were once so well known. This is a mistake, arising I know not how. The picture represents Archibald Bower, the Jesuit and quasi-convert to the Anglican Church, who wrote a history of the Popes. We are left in no doubt, as he holds a fully lettered volume of the history in his right hand. The picture was painted for the first Lord Carysfort, a great friend of Sir Joshua's, in 1757-8. It had been at Elton ever since, although, perhaps through disgust at Bower's later adventures, it had been banished to the *souterrains*."

A JORDAENS EXHIBITION is being arranged for next year at Antwerp on the same lines as the show of Vandykes held in the same city a few years back.

Two interesting series of pictures by the veteran artist Josef Israëls will be sold by auction at Amsterdam on Tuesday next by the firm of Frederik Muller & Co., of 10, Doelenstraat. The first of these comprises sixty-one water-colour drawings of Israëls's travels in Spain ('Reis in Spanje'), all signed with his initials. Eight admirable reproductions are given in the sale catalogue, which is printed in Dutch. The second series consists of twenty-five important works forming part of the collection of J. L. Muijser. These are mostly domestic scenes of country life or pictures of the life of fisher-folk by the seashore. One of the pictures, 'Adagio con Espressione,' is especially interesting from the fact that it was one of Israëls's first successes, and is well known through the lithograph published by A. Allebé. The same sale includes a characteristic example of Monticelli, 'Un Conte des Fées.'

THE official purchases by the State at the Salon of the Société Nationale des Beaux-Arts were announced on Sunday last. These include a landscape by M. Auguste Lepère, 'Le Grain' (No. 774); an interesting record of President Loubet's visit to London, 'La Sortie du Guildhall,' by M. Gillot; 'Ma Femme et ses Sœurs,' by M. Caro-Delvaile; 'L'Intérieur,' by M. Le Sidaner; 'Le Quai des Grands-Augustins,' by Mr. James W. Morrice; 'Après le Bain,' by Mr. Rupert C. W. Bunney; 'Cour d'Orangers,' by M. Santiago-Rusinol; the portraits of MM. Mollard and Roujoux by M. Paul Renouard; and, in the section of decorative art, vases by MM. Dammouse, Delaherche, and Edouard Monod.

THE International Society of Sculptors, Painters, and Gravers has been asked to arrange the British Section in the forthcoming Exhibition of Fine Arts at Düsseldorf. Mr. Neven du Mont, who is acting as delegate, has suc-

ceeded in getting together a representative collection of works of art.

It is a great disappointment to collectors of old armour to learn that the collection of the Duc de Dino, instead of being dispersed publicly at Messrs. Christie's, has been sold privately to the New York Museum. The collection, although small, is finer in quality than even that at Hertford House, and every article is a gem in itself. The price paid is said to be 1,500,000 francs. Some of the pieces, however, in the collection have been endowed with pedigrees which will not bear the test of inquiry; for instance, "le casque de Jeanne d'Arc," the "bâton de commandement de Charlemagne," and one or two others, belong to historical personages only in a Pickwickian sense.

M. HENRY MARTIN's lecture on some unrecorded features of mediæval illuminated manuscripts, recently referred to in the *Athenæum*, is to be published in the *Bulletin de l'Académie des Inscriptions et Belles-Lettres*; whilst a very much augmented version, with some facsimiles, will appear in the June issue of the *Revue Archéologique*.

FROM Rome we hear that the excavations now carried on in the Forum are being specially directed towards the identification of the Lake of Curtius, the celebrated gulf which, according to tradition, suddenly opened in the Forum. Further searches are also being made for traces of the basement of the very ancient equestrian statues which stood in the front of the Temple of Castor and Pollux. The explorations are to be carried on as far as the course of the Cloaca Maxima of the Tarquins, originally a small natural tributary of the Tiber.

MUSIC

THE WEEK.

ST. JAMES'S HALL.—Joachim Quartet Concerts.
QUEEN'S HALL.—London Choral Society's Concert.

THE first of the Joachim Quartet Concerts took place at St. James's Hall last Saturday afternoon. The programme—consisting of Haydn in D minor, Op. 76, No. 2; Mozart in D, dedicated to the King of Prussia; and Beethoven in B flat, Op. 130—presented three works by the three masters who distinguished themselves above all others in that particular branch of the art. The first is a particularly fine composition, and the rendering of the music by Dr. Joachim and his three associates, Profs. Carl Halir, Emmanuel Wirth, and Robert Hausmann, was marked by rare skill and refinement, especially that of the Andante. No one would, even if he could, write nowadays in the style of Haydn, yet no one, unless he swear by one master only, can help being touched by the true sentiment and simplicity of this music. The Beethoven quartet is wonderful, the Cavatina, with its grand dignity tempered by intense feeling, being one of the most striking movements Beethoven ever wrote. The quartet, however, does not maintain the same high level throughout. The dry fugue, which Beethoven originally intended for the last movement, was replaced, at the instance of his friends, by an Allegro, which, bright and clever as it is, comes, with its light-hearted mood, almost as a shock after the noble Adagio.

The performances of the last two quartets were excellent; that of the Cavatina superb. In rapid passages and in high notes Dr. Joachim reminds us that time has robbed him of some of that firm-

ness and fire which distinguished him in earlier days. But the intelligence and nobility of his playing compensate for any shortcomings in other respects. To hear the Cavatina was alone worth a visit to St. James's Hall. There was a very large and enthusiastic audience.

The programme of the London Choral Society's concert at Queen's Hall on Monday evening was devoted to the music of Dr. Elgar. The chief item was 'King Olaf,' composed for and performed at the North Staffordshire Musical Festival, October, 1896. In the notice in the *Athenæum* of November 7th of that year, the writer, after recognizing the high merits of the work, adds, "we look with eagerness for further manifestation of his powers." Since then Dr. Elgar has indeed made wonderful progress, and it is pleasing to see that long before he made so great a reputation with the 'Dream,' he was felt to be the coming man. 'King Olaf' shows vigorous writing, strong colouring, and skill of no ordinary kind. But the composer had not then the art of leaving something to the imagination; there is, too, a lack of self-criticism, of knowing when he has said enough. The text naturally led him to objective rather than subjective music. The very scrappy story does not appeal to the emotions, and that Dr. Elgar should have succeeded as well as he has is indeed a strong proof of his ability. The vocalists were Madame Clementine de Vere and Messrs. Joseph O'Mara and Ffrangcon Davies. The singing of the choir was vigorous, but it was heard to far greater advantage in the 'Dream of Gerontius' at the previous concert. The programme included the 'Meditation' from the 'Lux Christi,' and five part-songs for male voices, words from the 'Greek Anthology,' with English versions by Alma Strettell, Richard Garnett, Edmund Gosse, W. M. Hardinge, and Andrew Lang. The music displays harmonic and rhythmic features peculiar to the composer; it is dignified and expressive. The first and third numbers are the most characteristic; the smooth, quaint No. 4, however, makes the most direct appeal.

Musical Gossip.

DR. ELGAR'S 'The Apostles' was performed at the Albert Hall by the Royal Choral Society last Thursday week under the direction of the composer. The vocalists—Madame Kirkby Lunn and Miss Agnes Nicholls, and Messrs. Ffrangcon Davies, Kennerley Rumford, and Andrew Black—were excellent, but the choral singing left much to desire. The difficult work had evidently not been properly rehearsed.

MR. FRANK MERRICK, the young pianist whose appearance last year promised well, gave a recital at the Bechstein Hall yesterday week. His fine technique and intelligence were fully displayed in Herr d'Albert's transcription of a Bach organ fugue. His reading of Beethoven's Sonata, Op. 111, was in many points good, but it lacked that which comes only with time and experience.

THE Joachim Quartet, Miss Fanny Davies, and Mr. Gervase Elwes have kindly arranged to perform in Lord Leighton's Studio on Friday, May 6th, at 3 o'clock. The proceeds of the concert will be devoted to further the work of the Leighton House Committee, of which Dr. Joachim is a member. For twenty-five years Lord Leighton's friends enjoyed the

pleasure of hearing the great violinist perform every spring for his friend in his studio.

FIVE money prizes have been offered by a member of the Musicians' Company for a cycle of three songs, seven short pianoforte pieces, two for violin and pianoforte, an organ postlude, and a part-song or glee. The adjudicators will be Sir Frederick Bridge, Sir George Martin, and Dr. E. Markham. The works will be performed during the forthcoming musical exhibition at Fishmongers' Hall.

MISS ETHEL SMYTH, whose 'Der Wald' was produced at the Royal Opera, Berlin, in 1902, and performed at Covent Garden during the same year and again last season, is engaged upon a new opera, which she hopes to complete by next spring. The subject of the opera is English, but the libretto, written by Miss Smyth and Mrs. Woods, is in French.

HANDEL's oratorio 'Jephtha' will be performed by the Handel Society at St. James's Hall on Tuesday evening, May 10th.

THE season of the Berlin Philharmonic Society was brought to a close on the 20th inst., and the orchestra, under the direction of A. Nikisch, has started for Russia. At Petersburg and Moscow a series of six concerts is to be given, the programmes of which are to be entirely devoted to Tchaikowsky. After that visits will be paid to Charkov, Odessa, Kiev, Lodz, and Warsaw.

THE tercentenary of the death of Claudio Merulo, the famous composer and organist of St. Mark's, is to be duly celebrated at Parma, where he died on May 4th, 1604. The musical arrangements are under the direction of Amilcare Zanella, Director of the Conservatorio of that city.

A NEW opera, 'Der Vogt auf Muhlstein,' by Cyrill Kistler, was produced at Düsseldorf on April 19th.

SIGNOR FRANCO DA VENEZIA, whose Concert-stück for pianoforte and orchestra was to be performed at last Thursday's Philharmonic Concert, too late for notice this week, is the composer of 'Domino Azzuro,' one of the three operas selected by the jury for the Sonzogno prize of 2,000*l.* The three are to be performed next month, and then the final verdict will be given.

M. VLADIMIR DE PACHMANN, before his departure for America, where he is engaged for a tour, is giving a Chopin recital this afternoon at the Bechstein Hall.

THE twelfth volume of the Purcell Society has just appeared. It contains the five-act opera 'The Fairy Queen.'

A MONUMENT is to be erected to Verdi at Milan, at the Porta Magenta, opposite the home for musicians founded by the master. Italian artists are invited to compete. The first prize is of the value of 5,000 *lire*; for each of the next best five designs a sum of 1,000 *lire* will be awarded. For the monument itself there is, in addition, a sum of 120,000 *lire* at disposal.

WAGNER hoped great things from the democratic movement in 1848 at Dresden for the prosperity of the people and for art generally. His hopes were, however, doomed to disappointment, and he occupied himself with literary work: an essay on the Nibelungen myth, the poem of Siegfried's death, and the sketch of a drama 'Jesus of Nazareth.' In the following year the appointment of Count Beust as minister caused him to indite a dignified poem, 'An einen Staatsanwalt,' in which he gave vent to his feelings. The poem, dated March 22nd, 1849, has recently been published by the *Münchener Neue Nachrichten*.

PERFORMANCES NEXT WEEK.

- SUN. Sunday Society Concert, 3.30, Queen's Hall.
— Sunday League & Queen's Hall.
MON. Royal Opera, 'Don Giovanni,' 7.30, Covent Garden.
— Joachim Quartet, 8, St. James's Hall.
— Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Brereton's Concert, 8.15, Steinway Hall.

- TUES. Franz von Vecsey's Violin Recital, 3.30, St. James's Hall.
— Royal Opera, 'Tristan and Isolde,' 7, Covent Garden.
— Highbury Philharmonic, 8, The Athenæum, Highbury.
— Miss Molitor and Mr. Meux's Concert, 8.10, Eolian Hall.
WED. Miss Paula Scaillet's Pianoforte Recital, 3, Salle Erard.
— Madame Meadows and Miss L. Griffiths's Recital, 3, Bechstein Hall.
— Royal Opera, 'Pagliacci,' 8, Covent Garden.
THURS. Misses Barnett and Pinwell's Recital, 8.30, Bechstein Hall.
— Joachim Quartet, 3, St. James's Hall.
— Royal Opera, 'Roméo and Juliet,' 8, Covent Garden.
FRI. Royal Opera, 'Tannhäuser,' 7, Covent Garden.
SAT. Miss Ada Thomas's Pianoforte Recital, 3, Eolian Hall.
— Mrs. Fordham and Mr. H. Jones's Recital, 3.30, Bechstein Hall.
— Royal Opera, 'Lohengrin,' 7, Covent Garden.

DRAMA

THE WEEK.

DUKE OF YORK'S.—'The Rich Mrs. Repton,' a Comedy in Three Acts. By R. C. Carton.
COURT.—Afternoon Representations: 'Candida,' 'a Mystery' in Three Acts. By George Bernard Shaw.

IT is inevitable that the system adopted by R. C. Carton of writing for and round a single actress should end in exercising a deleterious effect upon his method. To a persistence in it is attributable the fact that his claim to rank as a dramatist is in the way of being disputed, and that his pieces are being classed as entertainments rather than as plays. Within his self-imposed limits there is room for the display of ability, and his later works have shown the neatness of style and the humour that characterize the earlier. After the first act, however, 'The Rich Mrs. Repton' disintegrates, so to speak, and the melodramatic action introduced seems an excrescence upon the story as originally conceived. Finding herself widowed and in possession of a million sterling, the least sum which in the view of a modern dramatist justifies the application to a woman of the term "rich," Mrs. Repton—whose past career offers some difficulty as regards the formation of social intimacies in the fashionable world under the conditions imposed on her, and who finds life a little monotonous—establishes in her own house a proprietary club, confined, as is intimated, to good fellows who are left behind in the world's race. To these she seeks to personate a fairy godmother, and though the task is difficult, she succeeds, thanks to her employment of a species of almoner, who takes on himself the responsibility for some of her charitable deeds. The system adopted involves, however, the maximum of expenditure with the minimum of result. In the case of a woman of wealth virtually unlimited this is of little significance. The more pressing needs of her favourites are relieved without any loss of dignity on their part. By the aid of a supposed syndicate, consisting wholly of herself, an unprosperous dramatist is raised into fame and fortune, while a young nobleman who is crippled with debts and separated from the girl he loves is restored to affluence and reunited to his mistress. Not very convincing are the means by which these and other kindred results are brought about. The incidents exhibited are amusing, however, and not wholly unacceptable. Only when we are shown an attempt at blackmail frustrated by the agency of the "good fairy," and find a sanctimonious bishop, who rather inconceivably is the head of the young nobleman's family, brought on in the last act for no purpose except to scold, we begin to resent the demands upon our credulity and to perceive that the whole is a not very carefully blended amalgam of sentiment and farce. With the details of the action we have not concerned ourselves. The cha-

racters are well conceived as a rule, though some of the types are commonplace, and the interpretation furnished is generally good. Mrs. Repton has to be accepted as the pivot of the action. In the presentation of this character Miss Compton shows her old sureness of touch. No longer posing as "another Helen" prepared to "fire another Troy," she contents herself with the presentation of good nature and aplomb.

Although two representations of Mr. Bernard Shaw's 'Candida' have been given by the Stage Society, the play is virtually unknown to the London public. Seven afternoon performances, which are being given at the Court Theatre, will do little to spread a knowledge of its merits as an acting play. These are, however, real, if not conspicuous, and there can be little doubt that the managers who produce at West-End theatres pieces of dull trifling which flutter on and off the stage would show better judgment in giving us work such as this, which, even if trifling—a point to be disputed—is never dull. Until a Bernard Shaw Society is founded to cast upon the works of the master a light otherwise brilliant than that shed by the Browning Society upon the author of 'Sordello,' we will not presume to interpret this latest humourist or moralist. All we are called upon to say is that when set before an average public 'Candida' keeps it in roars of laughter, and stirs it at times to deep feeling. Much of its humour has a blend, familiar in Mr. Shaw's case, of impertinence, and those who seek to extract from the work any intelligible lesson will find their ingenuity heavily taxed. A lesson, it is now conceded, is not indispensable to a play, and those who are content to be amused and stimulated may surrender themselves with the certainty of delight to one who, though he knows not the path down which he leads, is at least familiar with the general aspects of the country he explores. Mr. Norman McKinnel, Mr. Granville Barker, and Miss Kate Rorke, and other actors, gave the whole an able interpretation.

SHAKESPEARE AND GRAY'S INN, 1594.

IN regard to the performance of 'The Comedy of Errors' during the Christmas festivities at Gray's Inn, 1594, there are at least three questions of considerable interest that have not yet been asked and answered: 1. Who were the players who performed it? 2. Who was the person who invited them to do so? 3. Why was 'The Comedy of Errors' selected?

1. It has generally been taken quietly for granted that Shakespeare and his fellows were the performers on this occasion. But it is curious that there should be in this case some element of doubt, through the possibility of his being able to prove an *alibi* on that particular day. To make the situation clear it will be necessary to recall certain matters that seem at first sight entirely irrelevant to the question at issue.

Shakespeare had dedicated the "first heir of his invention" to the young Earl of Southampton in April, 1593, and had been so kindly treated that when he dedicated to him his "graver labour" in May, 1594, he addressed him as "Lord of his Love." This second venture disarmed all hasty criticism of his first, and made Shakespeare famous as a poet.

In November, 1593, Sir Thomas Heneage, a disconsolate widower, wrote to Lord Burghley, deploring the loss of his wife, from his "woful house at Copthall in Essex." Half a year later

he consoled himself by marrying Mary, Countess of Southampton, the mother of Shakespeare's patron, in that very month of May in which Shakespeare's 'Lucrece' was registered. This marriage materially increased Southampton's power to help his friend the poet. His polished and courtly stepfather had literary tastes, had written verses himself; he was trusted by Elizabeth, and all-powerful at Court, as he was the Vice-Chamberlain of the Royal Household. 'The Revels Books' fail us during Shakespeare's most critical years, but the books of the Treasurers of the Chamber teach us a good many things when read in the light of other facts. They teach us, for instance, that payments to the "Lord Chamberlain's Players" had ceased from 1588, and that the "Queen's Players" had taken their place. These had received payments "on a warrant dated January 31st, 1593/4, for a play performed on Twelfth day at night laste paste at Hampton Court," in all the sum of 10*l*.

But the first Christmas after the publication of 'Lucrece' and the marriage of the Countess of Southampton to Sir Thomas Heneage payments begin once more to be made to the "Lord Chamberlain's Servants," and for the first and last time it is mentioned that William Shakespeare was among these players, and among those who received the reward. This is the earliest official record of the poet's name yet found. It was not known to Collier, who says that, on the petition of the inhabitants of the Blackfriars against the theatre there in 1596, he found a paper pinned, containing the counter petition of the players, in which Shakespeare's name occurred, adding, "This entry is anterior by seven years to any official notice of Shakespeare's name." Collier's paper has not been accepted as genuine, but his words show that he did not know of this earlier entry. Halliwell-Phillips knew of it, but he did not gather its full import.

In spite of his wife's careful nursing, Sir Thomas Heneage died on October 17th, 1595. Either through ill-health, pressure of business, or indolence, he had allowed his books, and apparently his payments, to fall into arrears; so that his widow, as executrix, had to make up the books from September 29th, 1592, until December 16th, 1595.

Shakespeare's name might have appeared sooner or later, but by none was it then thought important enough to notice, except by Mary, Countess of Southampton, the mother of Shakespeare's friend. She spelt it in the way that he had passed in the proof of the dedications of the poems to her son, in the Court-spelling of the period, "Shakespeare."

Dr. Furnivall anathematizes those who write it thus as "second-hand not first-hand students." But here is the first official MS. authority, backing the first printed authority:—

"To William Kempe, William Shakespeare, and Richard Burbage, servants to the Lord Chamberleyne, upon the Councelles warrant dated at Whitehall xv die Marcij 1594, for two severall comedies or enterludes, shewed by them before her Maiestie in Christmas tyme laste paste, viz., upon St. Stephens daye, and Innocentes daye, xiiith, vith, viiith, and by waile of her Maiesties rewarde vith xiiith ivth—in all xxth."—Pipe Office, 542.

Now here is disclosed the important bearing of these details on our question: *The second of these performances before the queen at Greenwich took place the same day as the Gray's Inn Revels, Dec. 28th, 1594!* This discovery was, to say the least of it, discouraging, until it dawned on me that the second performance at Greenwich was said to have taken place "on Innocents' Day," not "on Innocents' Day at night," as was usual. A day performance might give time for the players, with good horses, to find themselves in London by the late hour suggested in the story of the revels, after all the confusions, and at least some of the dancing. They were all the more likely to be thought worthy of playing before that goodly

company if they had just come from playing before the queen, though the disappointed performers called them "base and common fellows."

2. But how did they, mere rank outsiders at the best, know of the confusion within the hall? How did they find the means of seizing their opportunity, and of entering the sacred precincts of the Palace of the Prince of Purpoole? Their performance was considered the crowning disgrace of the evening, and next day there was a special examination held as to the causes of the general humiliations of the night, ever after called "the Night of Errors." A conjurer was arraigned on the charge of having caused the confusion by magic, and "of having foisted a company of base and common fellows to make up our disorders with a play of Errors and Confusions." He was wisely set free, and the Christmas officials were sent to the Christmas Tower for neglect of duty. But one pertinent question the court did not ask—"Who paid the players?" Doubtless in the answer to that lay the answer to the other question, Who brought them in? It may be remembered that Shakespeare's patron, Henry, Earl of Southampton (born October 6th, 1573), had been admitted to Gray's Inn, February 29th, 1587/8, by his guardian, Lord Burghley. He had studied steadily there, and probably by this time was well known about the place.

It is quite likely, after he had seen his protégé perform before the queen, that he rode up to London merrily with the players; that he had re-re-supper with them, either at his own house in Holborn or at a neighbouring inn; that he left them there carousing, to go and take his part in the academic festivities, though his name does not appear among the office-bearers. He probably arrived when the "hurly-burly" was at its loudest, probably slipped out for the players, and returned with them promptly. It is quite certain that the players could not have heard—at least, in time—of the peculiar state of affairs, nor could they have effected an entrance of themselves without a guide well known to the porters and officials of the mimic court.

It may be remembered that the opening act of the Prince's reign had been to grant a pardon prospectively to "all forcible entries, intrusions; all manner of errors, misprisions, mistakes, overtakings, double dealings, disturbances, duplicities,* sorceries, enchantments," &c. Therefore, to this lively young nobleman at the worst it would only seem an unexpected Christmas revel, and at the best a means of allaying the disturbances in his Inn and of giving his poet a further chance of distinguishing himself. Some one must have taken the initiative, and who, under the circumstances, was so likely to do so as the young Earl of Southampton?

3. Why was 'The Comedy of Errors' played on that occasion? Was it by the merest accident that it was selected? or was it chosen in double mockery of the intended legal devices? Many considerations show that it must have been a new play at the time; but it is perfectly certain that it could not have been so new but that it had been previously rehearsed and performed, for the actors were ready for an unexpected emergency.

My own opinion is that 'The Comedy of Errors' was the play that they had been performing for the first time that day before the queen at Greenwich. It is stated to have been a comedy or interlude, though no name has as yet been gleaned from the records. Elizabeth loved not to be put off with "plays that had been printed," and had a well-known prejudice in favour of first performances. In the event of their having performed it that afternoon, all the cast would be ready, the parts prepared, the cues arranged. Possibly they had ridden up to London in their stage garments, or at least had

them ready with them in their malls to don in their own apartments. For there would have been no robing-room for them at Gray's Inn, nor any chance of effecting an entrance, unless disguised as "characters."

Doubtless it delighted Southampton and the players, and first stilled and then amused the uproarious company. But it pleased in no wise the young students of Gray's Inn who had been balked in the performance of their own parts. The name itself was an offence, for it gave a suggestive title to the night on which it was performed. After the inquiry the next day, when wearied of making a mock of their own follies, they held a consultation how best to recover the lost honour of Gray's Inn; and then, for the first and last time recorded in their century, Bacon was pitted against Shakespeare. "Divers plots and devices" were invented, and great preparations were made for a new performance on January 3rd. Amid pretty tableaux and careful speechifying before the Goddess of Amity, the breach of friendship between the Grays and Templarians was healed, and they sat together to behold the Masque of the Counsellors, which Spedding feels sure was written by Bacon, because "the speeches carry his signature in every line." They treat of the laws of chivalry and the enrolment of knights, of the glory of war, the study of philosophy, of virtue and good government, of procuring "eternization and fame by buildings and foundations." The sixth counsellor suggested

"sports and pastimes, feasting, music, dancing, triumphs, comedies, love and ladies. Whom the Prince of Purpoole answered, and set his company to dancing. The performance of which night's work, being very carefully and orderly handled, did so delight and please the nobles and the other auditory that thereby Gray's Inn did not only recover their lost credit, quite take away all the disgrace that the former Night of Errors had incurred, but got instead so great honour and applause as either the good reports of our honourable friends that were present could yield, or we ourselves desire."

The legal students of these times preferred Bacon's 'Counsellors,' posterity has preferred Shakespeare's 'Errors.'

It is one of the hackneyed "crucies" of Shakespeare's opponents that he could not have found the plot of this play from untranslated Plautus. It is quite probable that Shakespeare's Latin was sufficient to let him find a plot where he pleased; but we know that a translation of this particular play had already passed the censor, and been registered to Thomas Creede by June 16th, 1594:—

"A booke entitled Menæchmi, being a pleasant and fine conceited comedy, taken out of the most wittie poet Plautus, chosen purposely from out the rest, as being the least harmful, and most delightful."

It is more than likely that Southampton suggested this particular play while he was laying his friendly plans for getting his protégé advanced with the queen. In connexion with it we may note that once before at least a play of Plautus had been heard at Greenwich. After the giving up of Tournay, in prospect of the Princess Mary's marriage to the Dauphin, Henry VIII. demanded hostages. To amuse these hostages the king, on May 7th, 1520, made a solemn disport, "prepared a disguising, decorated his great chamber at Greenwich, caused it to be staged, and there was a goodlie comedie of Plautus plaied," then entered ladies and gentlemen and danced together (Holinshed, book iii. p. 850). It does not say whether the play was in English or Latin—more likely the latter, seeing it was for the delectation of French hostages. Neither is it mentioned whether the play was the 'Menæchmi' or not, but it was quite likely that it might even then have been chosen as "the least harmful and most delightful." Elizabeth might like to see a performance of a play all the more because it had been staged by her father. The inference, at least, from all

these facts is legitimate, that the play performed before Elizabeth on Innocents' Day, 1594, was 'The Comedy of Errors.' Exactly ten years later, "on Innocents' Day at night, 1604," the King's Company played "'The Comedy of Errors,' by Shakspeare," before a new sovereign and a new Court (Revels Book).

CHARLOTTE CARMICHAEL STOPES.

Dramatic Gossip.

THE School of Dramatic Art is in working order, and instruction is being given at His Majesty's Theatre to the pupils. An inaugural meeting, under the presidency of Mr. Tree, in the same building on Monday afternoon, was chiefly interesting as showing that the principal dramatists and actors, with a solitary exception, were in harmony with the scheme. Mr. Hare, Mr. Comyns Carr, and Sir Squire Bancroft spoke in its favour, and many other people of eminence lent their support. Letters of sympathy were read from Madame Sarah Bernhardt and M. Jules Claretie, and English actors, such as Sir Henry Irving, testified their sympathy.

A DISPUTE has been raised in the press as to the action of the Censure in seeking to stop what is known as "gagging." If authority is wise, it will avoid, if possible, all conflict with a foe more impalpable and elusive than it has yet known. The early history of the French stage is largely made up of the efforts to repress indulgence of this kind on the part of the Théâtre Italien, a struggle in which authority was always worsted, or in which victory on its part was as ruinous as defeat. In spite of the results achieved by the Italian Commedia dell'Arte, which rested almost entirely upon "gag," we have nothing to advance in favour of a practice unsuited to the heavy intellect and dull wits of the Englishman. If, however, the Censor provokes a serious combat, it is probable that he will find himself fronted by an antagonism far different from anything he has experienced, or for which he is prepared.

JOHN COLEMAN, who died on the 21st inst. from paralysis at Buckhurst Hill, Epping Forest, in his seventy-third year, was more generally known as a manager and an adapter than as an actor. He was born at Derby, and seems from an early age to have been stage-struck. He managed various theatres in Leeds and the North of England; played with Macready, who, however, does not mention his name in his 'Recollections'; and once or twice undertook London management. On September 16th, 1876, at the Queen's Theatre, he played young Henry to the Henry IV. of Phelps, the Pistol of T. Mead, the Chief Justice of John Ryder, and the Princess Katherine of Miss Emily Fowler. On April 8th, 1882, he produced at the Olympic Buchanan's 'Shadow of the Sword,' playing in it the rôle of Roan Gwenfern, in which he had previously been seen in Brighton. His 'Duchess of Coolgardie' he produced at Drury Lane, September 19th, 1896. It is nominally by Euston Leigh and Cyril Dare, otherwise himself and John Chute. Alone, or in collaboration with others, including Charles Reade, he wrote 'Marina,' founded on 'Mr. Barnes of New York,' Gaiety, August 4th, 1888; 'The Kiss of Delilah,' 'Foul Play,' and very many other dramas. He is also responsible for a life of Phelps, 'Curly: an Actor's Story,' 'Players and Playwrights I have Met,' 'Recollections of Charles Reade,' &c. He was supposed to be engaged upon further memories. In the country he is said to have acted an enormous round of Shakspearean characters. On the London stage he was little known and not too highly valued.

'BRIDE AND BRIDEGROOM' is the title of the four-act comedy by Mr. Arthur Law, which Sir

Charles Wyndham is on the point of producing at the New Theatre. Sir Charles is credited with having obtained possession of a four-act play by Mr. Roy Horniman entitled 'Bellamy the Magnificent,' which, however, is not likely to see the light before the autumn.

MAY 11TH is fixed for the first appearance this season of Miss Ethel Barrymore in 'Cynthia,' the new comedy of Mr. Hubert Henry Davies.

AT the close of his brief tenancy of the Apollo Theatre, Mr. Murray Carson will, with no break in the continuity of the run, transfer 'The Wheat King' to the Avenue.

'SATURDAY TO MONDAY' has undergone compression at the St. James's Theatre, and is greatly the better therefor. In the presentation of the 'Op o' me Thumb' of the same authors Miss Hilda Trevelyan remains admirable as the heroine.

'THE FLUTE OF PAN,' a four-act play of Mrs. Craigie, produced on the 21st inst. at the Gaiety Theatre, Manchester, is so named after a picture which the hero, a nobleman, is painting. The heroine, Princess Margaret of Siguria, is played by Miss Olga Nethersole, other parts being taken by Mr. Edward Fielding, Mr. Gilbert Hare, Miss Sarah Brooke, and Miss Helen Ferrers.

MISS LENA ASHWELL will enter upon theatrical management in the autumn. Her first appearance in this capacity is likely to be made in a version of 'La Montansier,' executed by Mr. Michael Morton. 'La Montansier' is, as is well known, the piece the right of Madame Réjane to play in which, at the Gaîté, has been so fiercely contested by her husband, M. Porel.

JUNE 6TH is the date fixed for the production at the Camden Theatre of the comedy of social life written by Mrs. Alfred Lyttelton for Mrs. Patrick Campbell.

FOR a benefit performance at the Haymarket on June 20th is promised a representation of a new version, by R. C. Carton, of 'The Porter's Knot,' a dramatization by Oxenford of 'Les Crochets du Père Martin,' in which Robson obtained one of the most notable of his successes.

AT the Grand Theatre, Islington, a performance on Monday of 'Arrah-na-Pogue' was the first of a series of revivals of pieces by Boucicault, which will include 'The Colleen Bawn' and 'The Shaughraun.'

OXENFORD'S adaptation 'The Two Orphans,' first produced at the Olympic in 1874, has been revived at the Union Square Theatre, New York, with Miss Clara Morris as Sister Genevieve—a notable reappearance, Mr. Charles Warner as Jacques, Mr. Kyrle Bellew as the Chevalier de Vaudrey, and with Miss Annie Irish and Miss Grace George in other parts.

THE National Portrait Gallery has acquired a portrait of John Quick, the celebrated comedian, which is attributed to W. Score, a pupil of Reynolds, and one of the elder Colman, by Reynolds himself. Quick, it is remembered, was the favourite actor of George III. A portrait of him as Alderman Arable in Reynolds's 'Speculation,' with "Gentleman" Lewis as Tanjore and Munden as Project, is a conspicuous feature in the Garrick Club collection.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—G. LE G. N.—W. A. W.—received.

J. L. (N. B.).—All right.

J. H.—Many thanks.

D. T.—Too late for this week.

No notice can be taken of anonymous communications.

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